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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-010
Friday
15 January 1993

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-010

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Lawmakers From 15 Nations Establish Asia-Pacific Forum

OW1401061293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0445 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono on Thursday [14 January] opened the founding session of an Asian Pacific Forum of lawmakers with a call for openness and diversity to develop peace and prosperity in the region.

Fifty-seven lawmakers from 15 Asian and Pacific countries met here Thursday on the opening day of a two-day founding session of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Forum (APPF), a congress for promoting dialogue and discussion of regional issues.

Reading a speech for Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Kono told the forum that the creation of such a body for multilateral dialogue is important since legislators represent more closely the opinions of the people than do business and government.

"The key to support peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region is to attach importance to both openness and diversity," Kono said.

The forum, which includes participants from the United States, Australia, South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand, was first proposed by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to enhance mutual understanding and cooperation in the region.

The forum is expected to adopt a Tokyo declaration on regional problems, including security issues, on Friday.

ASEAN To Dispute EC Export Rules

BK1401030793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jan 93 p 15

[Text] THE ASEAN side of the ASEANEC Business Council (AEBC) is to tell its European Community (EC) counterpart at their next meeting in July that certain regulations against ASEAN exports are "just not applicable" for ASEAN.

This is the message of AEBC chairman Ernesto Martelino. Mr Martelino, who is also vice-president of the Manila-based San Miguel Corp, was speaking at yesterday's meeting in Chiang Mai of the ASEAN section of the AEBC.

Following the Earth Summit meeting in Brazil last year, the EC has made it known that its member countries will not import timber products from countries without a complete reforestation plan. All ASEAN countries which export timber products automatically fall in this category. The EC says its policy is to ensure sustainable development, but many AEBC representatives attending yesterday's meeting argued that the EC ruling is a hostile move designed to impose a "non-tariff barrier" against incoming exports.

One delegate, Manuelo Carlos from the Philippines, who is president of Resins Inc Co, argued that the concept of sustainable development must be redefined to fit the context of industrialising countries and not only the industrialised countries. One aspect of sustainable development highlighted at the meeting is "development which is environmentally sound." Deforestation and the resulting global warming, it was argued, are the adverse consequences of past development which were not sustainable.

Mr Carlos said: "It is not right to impose their standard on ours. Each country has its own course and pace of development which must be reckoned with."

Another delegate, the chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said a dialogue ought to be opened with the EC to make it realise that ASEAN has its own concept of development.

And a Malaysian delegate said: "It is time to enlighten them of our concept of development. It is not right to sit idly by and let them dictate what we should do."

Mr Martelino argued that it is a question of "affordability" that both sides—ASEAN and the EC—must come to terms with. "As industrialising countries, ASEAN just cannot afford certain measures that are ruled out by the EC at present," he said.

Indonesia and Malaysia are affected by the new condition on timber exports. The Philippines, delegates at the meeting argued, faces a similar "non-tariff barrier" against their exports of carageenan, a food additive made of seaweed. According to Mr Martelino, Filipino exports of carageenan were barred from entering the EC market on the grounds of standard specification, despite the fact that the product is accepted in the US, UK and Canadian markets.

A Singaporean delegate argued that the EC generally lacks interest in ASEAN, but Mr Martelino said this is untrue. The EC, he said, is preoccupied with other engagements which are placed higher on their priority list, the most important being the post-Cold War reunification of Eastern Europe.

"It is also not an easy task to group together more than 800 chambers of commerce all over Europe into a single foundation to interact with the rest of the world," Mr Martelino said. He said that with regard to trade protectionism on ASEAN agricultural products, he is still uncertain on the prospects of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade scheduled to be concluded in the first quarter of this year in Geneva.

The Filipino delegate, Mr Carlos, said he expects EC and US officials to settle their dispute on farm subsidy cuts, which will in effect increase the competitiveness of ASEAN agricultural products.

Software Problems Delay ASEAN Computer Project

BK1401025593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jan 93 p 24

[Text] AN ASEAN project billed as one of the world's most advanced computer networks has failed to get off the ground because private-sector participants in some ASEAN countries have not yet developed the necessary software.

The ASEAN Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASEAN-CCI) originally said ASEANET, a project designed to revolutionise trade and investment in the region, would begin in October. But only Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines have developed their own software. The objective of ASEANET is to create a computerised information and trading network in the region and to tie up with similar networks in North America, Europe and elsewhere. Each country's private sector will be responsible for operations in its country.

At its meetine in Chiang Mai yesterday, the ASEAN-CCI called on members to invest $10,000 each to develop their own software so that the network can hook up with that of the European Community.

Pramon Suthiwong, a Thai delegate in the ASEAN-CCI, which is holding a meeting in Chiang Mai during January 12-15, said the countries which are ready to start the network will go ahead first, but they can only gain access to information from the EC.

He said yesterday's ASEAN-CCI meeting also agreed to seek $1-million financial assistance from the EC for ASEAN members to have access to the network throughout the region.

The ASEAN-CCI will next March send a representative to hold talks with the EC on financial aid. If the EC accepts the request, each ASEAN member will be able to develop their network without approval from the ASEAN-CCI.

Japan

U.S. Cruiser's Arrival in Nagasaki Protested

OW1501025393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0222 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Nagasaki, Jan. 15 KYODO—Demonstrators greeted the arrival of the U.S. Navy's Mobile Bay in Nagasaki Friday with a sea-going protest demanding that the 9,466-ton Aegis-class cruiser "go home."

Prefectural and municipal authorities had earlier asked the U.S. Navy through the Foreign Ministry "take into consideration the feeling of the citizens of this city that has suffered an atomic bombing," when the Navy was planning the visit.

Of particular concern to the local Hibakusha—atomic bomb victim—organizations and peace groups is that the Mobile Bay is equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles, which may be armed with nuclear or conventional warheads.

It is the first visit by a U.S. battle ship since September 1989, when Hibakusha protesters trampled on a floral wreath offered at the city's peace park by the commander of the U.S. frigate Rodney M. Davis.

The Mobile Bay, equipped with the latest Aegis air defense system, left its home port at Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture outside of Tokyo, on Monday.

The cruiser is expected to be in port over the weekend, giving the U.S. crew members some shore leave and a chance to strengthen goodwill.

Protesters, however, braved a chilly morning rain in 10 rubber dinghies and met the cruiser as it entered the port with banners appealing for the Mobile Bay to "go home."

A protest rally also was organized on land with about 300 atomic bombing victims lining the pier, chanting for the cruiser to leave.

Koichi Kawano, one of the rally's leaders told the crowd, "we cannot allow this area destroyed by an atomic bomb to become a port for warships which is tied to the future militarization of the port."

Once in port, the ship's commander, Steven G. Smith, told reporters that he understood the delicate feelings of the Nagasaki citizens, but streseed that he believed the visit would be useful in promoting friendship.

Asked about the presence of nuclear weapons on the Mobile Bay, Smith said that U.S. policy is not to have nuclear arms aboard a surface ship but added that it is also policy to neither confirm nor deny whether nuclear arms are on individual ships.

Sakurauchi Leaves for Meetings in Russia

OW1501042693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0417 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—House of Representatives Speaker Yoshio Sakurauchi left Tokyo Friday for a four-day visit to Russia for talks with Russian leaders.

Sakurauchi will meet Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, on Saturday.

Sakurauchi's visit was originally slated for January 16-20, but had to be advanced because of a January 19 meeting of the Imperial Household Council, which will formally approve Crown Prince Naruhito's engagement to career diplomat Masako Owada.

PRC 'Patrol Vessel' Fires on Fishing Boat

OW1401151793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Naha, Jan. 14 KYODO—A Chinese patrol vessel fired at a Japanese fishing boat in the East China Sea on Thursday, Maritime Safety Agency officials said.

No casualties were reported among the crew of 10 on board the 340-ton No. 73 Genpuku Maru, a fishing vessel from Nagasaki Prefecture, the officials said.

China apologized over the incident in response to a Japanese protest, they said.

China told Japan its patrol ship mistook the Genpuku Maru for a boat of tobacco smugglers.

The Genpuku Maru was fired on by an unidentified ship in high seas off Miyako Island, Okinawa Prefecture, at around 3:30 A.M. on Thursday. A Japanese patrol boat rushed to the scene and identified the vessel as a Chinese patrol boat, they said.

The Chinese vessel approached the Genpuku Maru without hoisting its national flag and fired four shots, they said.

A total of 50 firing incidents have been reported in the East China Sea since January 1991, of which China has admitted that one was by a Chinese patrol boat.

Tokyo, Tel Aviv Agree on Taxation Treaty

OW1401095493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0843 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan and Israel have agreed to conclude a nondouble taxation treaty, the Foreign Ministry announced Thursday.

The treaty will abolish the necessity for Japanese citizens in Israel and Israelis in Japan to pay taxes to their home governments on income earned abroad as long as tax is paid to their host countries.

The treaty will also apply to corporate profit taxes shouldered by Japanese and Israeli business enterprises, thus paving the way for enhanced bilateral economic ties.

The agreement on a draft tax treaty came in negotiations held in Tokyo from Monday through Wednesday. Negotiations began last June.

The development reflects Japan's new policy of promoting broad-ranging relations with Israel after an extended period in which an Arab boycott of the Jewish state worked to discourage business ties.

North Korea

Foreign Ministry Denies Possession of Chemical Weapons

SK1401233293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2210 GMT 14 Jan 93

["Press Statement" by DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman issued in Pyongyang on 14 January—read by announcer]

[Text] The United States and the South Korean authorities—its followers, are attempting to fabricate various malicious smears and slanderous maneuvers in a bid to work out an excuse for resuming the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

The United States and the South Korean authorities, who were talking about our nuclear suspicions up to now, are raving about our nonexistent chemical weapons, thus provoking us.

On 9 January, the United States, bringing South Korea's foreign minister to the front, noted that we have the capability of producing so-called chemical weapons, that we have accumulated a certain quantity of materials for chemical weapons, and so forth. Thus, they groundlessly slandered us.

Such moves illustrate that the United States and the South Korean authorities are attempting to resume at last the Team Spirit joint military exercise in which various nuclear weapons, chemical weapons and other mass lethal weapons are to be mobilized, defying the unanimous opposition of the Korean people and the world.

The decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise, in which chemical weapons will be mobilized together with nuclear weapons, is an act of undisguised nuclear and chemical threat and menace [haekmitt hwahak wihyop konggal] against the Korean people. It is a criminal act of flagrantly infringing upon international laws.

The Korean peninsula was the place where biochemical weapons were used for the first time by the imperialists since World War II, and the Korean people directly suffered the calamity of biochemical weapons.

During the past Korean war, the United States and its stooges indiscriminately used biochemical weapons against our Republic and people, thus committing a barbarous act.

Because the United States and the South Korean authorities committed a criminal act of using chemical and biological weapons during the war, tens of thousands of innocent residents were mercilessly killed and injured and suffered severe pains caused by various infectious diseases including pests, cholera, and typhoid fever. We still remember this vividly.

This fact has also been proven by the report on the United States' crime on Korea prepared by the investigation team of the International Democratic Lawyers Association which directly confirmed the true aspect of the situation on the spots by visiting our country and announced this to the world.

Our people, who suffered the calamity of biochemical weapons, are making every effort to make the Korean peninsula a zone free from chemical and nuclear weapons.

The United States and the South Korean authorities, however, are adhering to various maneuvers to again incur chemical calamity on the Korean people.

An enormous quantity of various chemical weapons are being produced and accumulated in poisonous gas plants which have been brought into South Korea from the United States. In addition, various types of chemical ammunitions have been deployed for a real war along the Military Demarcation Line.

In particular, the United States and the South Korean authorities are going to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which is a combined cooperative exercise of nuclear-chemical weapons aimed at our country. This is a grave threat to peace and security on the Korean peninsula and is causing great worries of our people and the peaceloving people of the world.

Our nation has no chemical weapons from the outset. There is no change in the position of our Republic to oppose the development, production, storage and use of chemical weapons.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should abandon the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which is an attempt to drive the Korean people into the calamities of nuclear war and chemical war. They should join our sincere efforts to make the Korean peninsula a peace zone, free from nuclear and chemical weapons.

KCNA Reports Denial

SK1501045893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 15 Jan 93

["DPRK Has No Chemical Weapons"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—The spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published a statement Thursday regarding the fact that the United States and the South Korean authorities are now slandering the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with outcries over the non-existent "chemical weapons" after raising quite a row over "nuclear suspicion" against it.

Recalling that the United States on January 9 let the South Korean "foreign minister" groundlessly decry the North, alleging that it possessed the production capacity of chemical weapons and had stockpiled a certain amount of materials for those weapons, the spokesman said:

Such act shows that the United States and the South Korean authorities are trying to force the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises involving all kinds of nuclear weapons and chemical weapons and other arms of mass destruction in disregard of the unanimous opposition of the Korean people and the world people.

That scheme of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the "Team Spirit" involving chemical weapons beside nuclear arms is an open nuclear and chemical threat to the Korean people and a criminal act of wantonly violating international law.

The Korean peninsula is a place where biochemical weapons were used by the imperialists for the first time after the second world war and the Korean nation is a people who directly suffered disasters from biochemical weapons.

The Korean people, once a victim to biochemical weapons, have made every possible effort to turn the Korean peninsula into a zone free from chemical weapons, not to speak of nuclear weapons.

The United States and the South Korean authorities, however, are straining every nerve to impose another chemical scourge upon the Korean people.

Now, in South Korea, a colossal amount of chemical weapons of all kinds are being produced at poison gas factories brought from the United States and are stockpiled and chemical bombs of different types are deployed in the Military Demarcation Line areas.

Their projected resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, nuclear and chemical attack manoeuvres directed against the DPRK, is a grave threat to peace and security on the Korean peninsula. It is giving rise to deep apprehensions of the Korean people and the world peaceloving people.

The DPRK has never had any chemical weapon and there is no change in its stand opposed to their development, production, storage and use.

The United States and the South Korean authorities must stop the "Team Spirit" joint exercises intended to drive the Korean nation into a holocaust of nuclear war and chemical war, and join the DPRK in the sincere effort to make the Korean peninsula a peace zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons.

KCNA Criticizes CIA Director's Remarks on DPRK Nuclear Issue

SK1501045593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 15 Jan 93

["Challenge of Nuclear Fanatic"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Chief of the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States Gates in an interview published in THE WASHINGTON POST on January 13 argued that international inspections of North Korea's nuclear facilities have failed to resolve the issue because of "limited access provided to inspectors" and because of "disturbing evidence of efforts to deceive," according to a report.

This is another malicious challenge to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and a nonsensical talk intended to mislead public opinion.

It is known to the world that the honesty of the peaceful nuclear policy of the DPRK Government and its consistent stand and efforts to denuclearize the Korean peninsula have been clearly proven through inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency on several occasions.

As reported, the general director of the IAEA said at a meeting of directors held in Vienna some time ago that cooperation between the IAEA and the DPRK was effective and the DPRK was one of the countries which were acting affirmatively to increase the transparence of its nuclear program.

It is ridiculous of the U.S. CIA chief to kick up a dust over the fictitious "nuclear problem" of the DPRK, not lending an ear to the unbiased opinion.

The utterances of Gates slandering the DPRK with trite rubbish are aimed at diverting elsewhere the attenion of the world people who support the DPRK's just demand for an overall inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea and laying down a smokescreen over the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases.

Choe U-chin Sends Telephone Message to South

SK1401130993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1212 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Choe U-chin, our side's chairman of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC], sent a telephone message today to Kong No-myong, the South side's chairman.

In the telephone message, he pointed out the following:

As you know, in the 11 January telephone message, our side proposed that the 14th North-South JNCC meeting be held on 20 January, the first anniversary of the adoption of the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, and that a meeting of members be held on January 15 to discuss the rules of inspection. It is fortunate that in your 13 January telephone message, you showed an affirmative reaction, even though it was conditional, to our side's telephone message containing the proposal that a committee meeting and members' contacts be held simultaneously.

Your side, however, unilaterally designated the dates of three rounds of member's contacts, ignoring the good usage of North-South dialogue. Your side took the position of postponing the date of the committee meeting. This cannot be considered a sincere attitude to remove the difficulties lying in the way of the committee meeting.

If your side had had a sincere position to immediately conclude the discussion of the rules of inspection and to implement the joint denuclearization declaration, it should have held a committee meeting at the outset of the New Year. Your side also should have notified us first of the decision to cancel the agreement to resume the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise, a basic obstacle to the JNCC work. Your side, however, avoided doing that which it should have done as a matter of course. It even postponed the date of the committee meeting for a week. I think that there is obviously a sinister intention, and express deep concern over it.

With the arrival of the New Year, our two sides should, as a matter of course, make progress in the JNCC work to make a new start. Therefore, our side considers, holding the ninth members' contact on 15 January and the 14th full-dress meeting on 20 January, the first anniversary of the adoption of the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, as our side has already proposed to be the most appropriate.

However, if these two dates are inconvenient to your side, we believe, the sides should sit face to face on 22 January, at the latest, to open a new phase without fail. It would be appropriate to discuss and decide on at the 15 January members' contact the dates of members' contacts to be held after 15 January. I expect that you would express an affirmative response to this proposal of ours.

WPK Delegation Departs for Latin America 14 Jan

SK1401125493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1110 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, left here today for Latin America.

It was seen off at the airport by vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee Chi Chae-yong, and Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega.

Musan Mining Complex Improves Production

SK1401123393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The Musan mining complex, the nation's leading production base of iron headings, has lifted the daily output of iron headings 3,600 tons and crude ores 15,000 tons entering the new year above the daily average at the end of last year.

Regarding it as the key to ore production to extend the cutting lines at the open-cast cutting sites, the miners concentrated heavy machines on this work from the beginning of the year. In this way they have carried out big blasting in succession in several districts, thus creating conditions to deal with more than 1 million tons of crude ores and overburden.

The equipment is effectively operated in ore dressing as demanded by the technical rules and standard to remarkably increase the metal content rate of headings as compared with the same period last year.

Kim Il-song Receives Messages, Exchanges Greetings

From Iranian General

SK1501045393 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has received a thank-you message from the General Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps of Iran.

The thank-you message is as follows:

Respected Your Excellency Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK:

Upon leaving your beautiful country, I express deep gratitude to your excellency for the warm and friendly hospitality that respected your excellency and the Korean Government and people accorded our delegation.

I have come to have the most splendid impression of Pyongyang through our visit, and established formal and personal relations with responsible functionaries and friends in Korea.

I hope that the friendly relations existing between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the DPRK will further develop in the future.

I sincerely wish the hard-working, brave Korean people progress and prosperity.

[Signed] Mohsen Reza'i, Major General and general commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps of Iran
[Dated] 13 January 1993, Pyongyang

From Austrian Chuche Seminar

SK1501061593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a letter from the participants in an Austrian national seminar on the present era and the chuche idea held in Vienna.

President Kim Il-song is constantly developing and enriching the chuche idea and thus indicating a new road of independence on which the peoples of all countries can enjoy freedom, peace and prosperity at the historic turning-point when the cold war has come to an end and the policy of strength gone bankrupt, they say in the letter.

They express firm solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle to build socialism centred on the popular masses and reunify Korea through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments on the basis of the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

They wholeheartedly wish President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Leaders Exchange Cards

SK1401101193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, exchanged New Year's cards with heads of state and party leaders of different countries on the occasion of the New Year 1993.

They are Sultan Muhibbuddin Shah Azlan, king of Malaysia; Punsalmaagin Ochirbat, president of the state of Mongolia; Abdur Rahman Biswar, president of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Ranasinghe Premadasa, president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; Shankar Dayal Sharma, president of the Republic of India; Ilyas al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon; Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Republic of Tunisia; Bin-Talal Husayn I, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the presidential council of the Republic of Yemen; Lansana Conte, president and head of state of the Republic of Guinea; Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of the state council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau; Ali Saibou, president of the Republic of Niger; Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Rwanda; Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of the Republic of Mozambique; Valentine M. Strasser, head of state and chairman of the national provisional ruling council of the Republic of Sierra Leone; Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Republic of Angola; Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua; George Price, prime minister of Belize; Percival J. Hatterson, prime minister of Jamaica; Alberto Fujimori Fujimori, president of the Republic of Peru; David Jack, governor-general of St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Margrethe II, Queen of the Kingdom of Denmark; Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation; Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic of Bulgaria; Frajo Tudjman, president of the Republic of Croatia; Mario Alberto Soares, president of the Republic of Portugal; Leonid Kravchuk, president of the Ukraine; Do Muoi, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party; Souphanouvong and Phoumi Vongvichit, advisors to the Central Committee of Lao People's Revolutionary Party; K. P. Silva, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Sri Lanka Cmmmunist Party; H. S. Surjeet, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist); Indrajit Gupta, general secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India; Ali Hassan, general secretary of the Supreme Council of the National Socialist Party of Syria in Lebanon; Mohamed Harman, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Tunisian Communist Party; Yacob Zayadine, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Jordanian Communist Party; Guzman Rivera Castaneda, general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Peru; Rene Mauge Mosquera, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ecuador; Jean Spielmann, chairman of the Workers' Party of Switzerland; Alvaro Cunhal, chairman of the National Council of the Communist Party of Portugal; and Carlos Carvalhas, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Portugal.

President Kim Il-song also exchanged New Year greetings with his Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

Solidarity From Venezuela

SK1401123193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a solidarity letter from Adelso Gonzalez Urdaneta, general secretary, and Emil Guevara, international secretary, of the People's Electoral Movement of Venezuela, which denounces the decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

In the letter they said the people's electoral movement of Venezuela considers that the "Team Spirit" staged by the United States and South Korean authorities is a provocative act which casts a chill over the fervor of the Korean people for reunification and, at the same time, an act of encroachment against the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and socialist people.

Expressing support to and solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for national reunification, they bitterly denounced the provocative "Team Spirit" nuclear war game of the United States and South Korean authorities and demanded prompt withdrawal of their plan.

Kim Chong-il Exchanges New Year Cards

SK1401232693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il exchanged new year's cards with a head of state and party leaders of different countries.

He exchanged new year's card with Lansana Conte, president and head of state of the republic of Guinea.

Comrade Kim Chong-il exchanged the cards also with Do Muoi, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Khamtay Siphandon, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party; Phoumi Vongvichit, advisor to the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party; H. Mhkyurjeet, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist); Indrajit Gupta, general secretary of the national council of the Communist Party of India; Walid Jumblatt, president of the Socialist Progressive Party of Lebanon; Ali Hasan, general secretary of the Supreme Council of the National Socialist Party of Syria in Lebanon; Yacob Zayadine, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Jordanian Communist Party; Eriya Kategaya, national national political commissar of the National Resistance Movement and first deputy prime minister of the Republic of Uganda; Hervin Chung, chairman of the Caribbean National Movement; Rene Mauge Mosquera, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ecuador; Betty Frydensbjerg Carlsson, president of the Communist Forum of Denmark; Jean Spielmann, chairman of the Workers' Party of Switzerland; Alvaro Cunhal, chairman of the National Council of the Communist Party of Portugal; Leszek Miller, general secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Social-Democracy of the Polish Republic; Bogumit Bryczek, chairman of the Polish League of Communists "Proletariat"; Branko Kitanovic, general secretary of the New Yugoslav Communist Movement; and Juan Ramos, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain.

Foreign Leaders Support Reunification Policy

SK1401134693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The policy of national reunification reiterated by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address is evoking great repercussions at home and abroad.

Heads of state of different countries expressed full support and solidarity for the DPRK's policy of national reunification when they met the DPRK ambassadors to their countries recently.

Guyanese President Cheddi Bharrat Jagan voiced full support to the proposal of reunification through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments which was made by President Kim Il-song for the reunification of the country, saying it is the most feasible proposal.

He affirmed that Guyana would support in the future, too, the principles and efforts for the Reunification of Korea.

Jamaican governor-general Howard Cooke, supporting the proposal for Korea's reunification put forward by the great His Excellency President Kim Il-song, stressed that the concrete wall must be demolished at once for the reunification of Korea.

Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, said Laos would invariably and actively support the provosal of respected comrade President Kim Il-song for Korea's reunification and the struggle of the Korean people to achieve the Reunification of the country.

He declared that Laos would continue to support the Korean people's struggle to firmly defend the gains of revolution.

Burundian President Pierre Buyoya said the Burundian Government and people would continue to support the DPRK Government and people in the struggle for the reunification of the country.

PLO Supports Reunification Policy

SK1401102293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation issued a statement on January 4 supporting the policy of national reunification laid down by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address.

Clarified in the New Year address is the guiding idea of Comrade President Kim Il-song who has accumulated rich experiences through protracted armed struggle and socio-political struggle, the statement said.

It stressed that the proposal for Korea's reunification and policy related to the international problem put forward in the New Year address are a guideline to be observed by Korea and the countries concerned and by all countries of the world for reunification, development and stability of the Korean peninsula and for peace, security and prosperity of the world. In its statement on January 6, the Afro-Asian Solidarity organisation of Britain said:

As President Kim Il-song elucidated in his New Year address, the principle of national independence is the fundamental principle of Korea's reunification which allows no concession.

The statement demanded that the South Korean authorities give up the idea of dependence on outside forces before it is too late, honestly approach the reunification question from the stand of national independence and sincerely implement the North-South agreement.

Reunification Group Urges Repeal of National Security Law

SK1501112893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Yang Tongmin, chairman of the Japan Regional Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), published an article on the new year, according to the Korean newspaper in Japan MINJOK SIBO.

He said the first meeting of co-chairmen of the North, the South and overseas in history was held last year and it was agreed among broad sections of Koreans through the 3rd pan-national rally and the formation of the National Federation of Youth and Students for the country's reunification that reunification by means of confederacy based on the principle of great national unity was the most reasonable and realistic proposal.

He called upon the Koreans at home and abroad to pool efforts in the struggle for the abolition of the "National Security Law" and the release of all prisoners of conscience in South Korea and for the acceleration of reunification which would be a festivity of all our nation.

Foreign Party, State Leaders Support Reunification

SK1501112693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Foreign party and state leaders expressed full support to the Korean people's cause of reunification when they met DPRK ambassadors or trade representatives.

Guyanese Prime Minister Anthoney Hindy said the proposal for reunification through confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a most just one.

Expressing hope Korea would be reunified, he said that he would make every effort for reunification of Korea.

Freddy Munoz, secretary-general of the Central Committee of the Movement to Socialism of Venezuela, noted that Korea has made a great contribution to world peace and international detente. He expressed full support to the Korean people's struggle to achieve an independent reunification of the country without outside interference.

'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the presidential council of the Republic of Yemen, said he hoped Korea would be reunified at an early date.

Peruvian Party Leaders Support Reunification

SK1501111293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Guzman Rivera Castaneda, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Peru, Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, chairman of the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students of Peru, Fernando Calmell Del Solar, national secretary general of the Popular Action Party of Peru, and Renan Raffo Munoz, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party, received the DPRK ambassador to their country.

The political party leaders stressed that they became more firmly convinced of the victory of the socialist cause after receiving the New Year address of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Noting that Korea is the bastion of socialism at present and the Workers' Party of Korea is a vanguard of the socialist cause, they said they confirmed the advantage and invincibility of socialism in the looks of Korea and gained strength from it.

They voiced full support to the policy of national reunification put forward by the great leader in his New Year address.

Klaus Gis, chairman of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Denmark, Preben Moller Hansen, chairman of the Danish Workers' Party, common cause, and Betty Frydensbjerg Carlsson, president of the communist forum of Denmark, when they received the DPRK ambassador to their country, said the New Year address of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gives confidence in socialism and courage of struggle to the revolutionary parties and peoples of the world aspiring after socialism.

They noted that in order to smash the anti-socialist offensive of the imperialists and defend socialism, it is necessary for the communist and workers' parties of the world to form a common front and strengthen support and solidarity in the spirit of the Pyongyang declaration.

They expressed full support to the policy of national reunification laid down by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his new year address.

O Chin-u Sends Greetings to Nigerian Counterpart

SK1501120693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Marshal of the DPRK O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to General Sanni Abacha, secretary for defence and chief of staff of defence of Nigeria, on the army day of Nigeria.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the Armed Forces of the two countries would continue to develop in depth, the message wished him and the officers and men of the Nigerian Armed Forces greater success in their efforts to increase the defence capabilities of the country.

South Professor, Students Praise Kim Il-song Speech

SK1401123293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—A professor and students of Kyongbuk National University in Taegu expressed reverence for the great leader President Kim Il-song on the morning of the New Year's day, according to radio Voice of National Salvation.

The professor told students who visited him at his home that morning: Numerous prominent leaders have been recorded in history, but never such a great leader as our general. He has been devoting his all to the noble cause of the freedom and liberation of the people in his life of 80 years.

Mr. Kim Ku (pseudonym Paekpom) and Mr. Yo Un-hyong (pseudonym Mongyang) trusted and followed general Kim Il-song from long ago because they were convinced it was a road of glory and happiness on which the bright future of the nation was promised.

As the general's heart is full of care for the people, the hearts of the people are full of trust and faith in the general. Our long-cherished desire for independence, democracy and reunification is sure to be realized, if we trust and follow only the general who devotes himself to the people with the creed that one wins the world and emerges ever-victorious when he absolutely believes in the strength of the people and relies upon their strength but suffers defeat every time when he stays away from the people.

Let us all make a deep bow to respected general Kim Il-song, wishing him a long life in good health.

Rallies Mark 40th War Anniversary

SK1401072293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 14 Jan 93

["Rallies To Significantly Greet Victory Day"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—Mass rallies were held at the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine, the Hyesan Youth Mine, the Supung Power Station, the June 4 rolling stock complex, the Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Complex, the eastern district general housing construction company, the Mangyongdae cooperative farm and other industrial establishments and co-op farms to vow to greet the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Great Fatherland Liberation War with a high degree of political enthusiasm and signal achievements in production and construction in hearty response to the New Year address of the respected leader President Kim Il-song.

The reporters and speakers at the rallies stressed that under the wise leadership of the party and the leader they would accelerate socialist economic construction while continuously pushing ahead with the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, so as to solidify the foundations of the independent economy and improve the people's material and cultural living standards, thus consolidating and developing the most superior Korean-style socialism.

Council Demands Dismissal of ROK Ambassador to Japan

SK1501113093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—The South Korean measure council for measure on the "volunteer corps" problem on January demanded that the authorities to immediately dismiss the South Korean "ambassador" to Japan who had made boorish remarks regarding the "volunteer corps" problem. [sentence as received]

The council said his argument that it is unreasonable to demand the Japanese Government to admit the forcible drafting of the "volunteer corps" was a total negation of its demand for a probe into the truth behind the "volunteers corps" problem and an apology of the Japanese Government.

The council sharply denounced his utterances as representing the stand of the Japanese Government which had denied the forcible drafting of the "volunteers corps" and clinch this problem by minimizing and distorting it.

Medical Sector Rallies To Carry Out Tasks

SK1501052193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Rallies were held at the Academy of Medical Science, the Kim Man-yu Hospital, the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital and the Academy of Traditional Korean Medicine to vow to carry out the tasks set forth at the Korean intellectuals meeting.

The congratulatory letter of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the Korean intellectuals meeting and the letter of pledge to the party Central Committee headed by respected Comrade Kim Il-song adopted at the meeting were read out at the rallies.

The reporters and speakers at the rallies said they would uphold the party with deep knowledge and high technique and firmly safeguard with sincerity and medical science and technology Korean-style socialism which takes care of the lives and health of the people in a responsible manner.

They declared that they would introduce advanced diagnostic methods and effective treatment methods in which Korean traditional medicine is combined with western medicine, by invigorating medical services and scientific researches for the implementation of the party's policy of preventive medicine so as to greet the 40th anniversary of the victory in the great fatherland liberation war with a high degree of political enthusiasm and brilliant achievements in medical assistance.

They said they would intensify researches to put diagnosis and treatment by Korean traditional medicine on a scientific basis, drawing on the advanced techniques attained by modern science, and produce a larger quantity of efficacious drugs of traditional medicine.

Letters of pledge to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were adopted at the rallies.

Yun Ki-pok Address Marks Newspaper Anniversary

SK1501054093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—A national meeting was held here Thursday to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the newspaper "SAENAL" (January 15, 1928) published and directed by the great leader President Kim Il-song during the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, delivered a report at the meeting.

The reporter said the true historical cause of building revolutionary publications of the working class in Korea was started by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and has covered a road of unremitting development.

The foundation of the newspaper "SAENAL" was a solemn declaration announcing to the whole world the birth of a new-type publication which fundamentally differed from publications in the preceding period, a chuche-type revolutionary publication whose mission it was to struggle for the cause of independence of the working people with the chuche idea as its only guideline, and the deep and strong historical roots of revolutionary publications of our party have since begun to strike, the reporter said, adding:

The distinguished exploit of the newspaper "SAENAL" lies in that it served as a powerful ideological weapon in the struggle to realise oneness of ideology and leadership, holding respected Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem as the centre of unity and leadership at the very dawn of the Korean revolution.

Basing himself on the rich exploits and experiences gained in the course of publishing "SAENAL", Comrade Kim Il-song issued and directed "Bolshevik", "Nongu", "Samilwolgan", "Sogwang", "Cholhyol", "Jongsori" and other revolutionary publications, thereby arming the anti-Japanese guerrillas and people firmly with the chuche-based line and policy of the Korean revolution and vigorously rousing them to the struggle for the liberation of the country.

As there were valuable exploits and rich experiences provided by Comrade Kim Il-song in the building of revolutionary publications, our party was able to publish the party organ and other newspapers, magazines, radios, news agency and its other press media in good time under the very complicated and difficult circumstances after the liberation.

The reporter further said:

Comrade Kim Il-song gave the origin of revolutionary publications and has strengthened and developed press media of our party into a powerful ideological weapon of the revolution and construction by successfully applying his chuche-based idea of the press. This is an immortal, valuable feat performed by him for the times and history.

The valuable exploits performed by Comrade Kim Il-song in the building of chuche-based press media have been creditably inherited by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, with the result that the publications of our party are greeting a great heyday of their development.

Very important is the duty of the party's press media in successfully fulfilling our revolutionary tasks at present, the reporter said, stressing the need for the mass media of our party to more forcefully conduct propaganda activities, giving priority to education in the chuche idea in line with the obtaining situation and with the requirement of the developing revolution.

KCNA Reports U.S. 'Frantic Bombing Exercise' 12-13 Jan

SK1501045493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors staged a frantic bombing exercise for locating and striking targets under the command of an observation plane in the skies above Kunwi, Anmyon islet and Hongsong of South Korea on January 12 and 13 as part of a combined air war exercise, according to military sources.

This training was a dangerous war gamble aimed at testing the practicability of the coordinating and air commanding system of the U.S. airforce present in South Korea and overseas-based flying groups by an air commanding plane in case of "emergency" on the Korean peninsula.

On the 13th, the U.S. imperialists staged an exercise for surprise raid, strike at targets and prompt fleeing away from the spot under different circumstances and conditions in the skies above Chungju, Yoju and Pyongchang as part of the combined air war exercise.

Earlier, on the 12th, formations of fighter-bombers and assault planes which were flown above Uijongbu and Phochon held an exercise for covering a ground attack operation, and fighter planes flying above the East Sea off Ulchin an exercise for supporting a marine landing operation.

Synchronizing with the combined air war exercise which reached its climax on January 13, a KC-135 tanker plane refuelled flying corps of different types mobilized in the exercise, circling the skies above the West Sea off Kunsan, Kunwi and Wonju areas.

The warplanes of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces mobilized in the combined air war exercises against the northern half of Korea on January 12 and 13 totaled more than 350.

KCNA Interviews Indian on Kim Il-song's New Year Address

SK1401134493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—D. P. Maheshwari, chairman of the Indian Federation for World Cooperation and Cultural Relations, was interviewed by the KCNA correspondent in New Delhi on January 2 upon receiving the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He said President Kim Il-song's New Year address is a highly important work which is of great theoretical and practical significance in the struggle for world peace and socialism.

Basing himself on a profound analysis of the international situation and practical achievements and experience in the socialist construction of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the president gave a comprehensive exposition of the tasks and ways for the cause of socialism, the cause of global independence, thus enjoying the unanimous support and welcome of the world progressive people and forcefully inspiring them to the struggle for the accomplishment of the cause of independence, he noted.

He stressed that the question of Korea's reunification must be realized by means of a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments on the principle of national independence.

We demand that the United States withdraw its troops and mass destruction weapons from South Korea without delay and stop all forms of war exercises at once, he said.

KCNA Reviews 15 Jan Pyongyang Press

SK1501054293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today gives frontpage prominence to an editorial entitled "Let Us Forcefully Step Up Socialist Construction With Unshakable Conviction and Will." The editorial says if the people making revolution are to walk the road of revolution, socialism to the last, they must have firm faith and will.

According to papers, President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received messages from president of the state of Palestine Yasir 'Arafat, Austrian President Thomas Klestil and Afghan President Borhandoddin Rabbani in reply to his messages of greetings sent to them respectively on the 28th anniversary of the start of the Palestinian revolution, the national day of Austria and upon his election as president of the Islamic state of Afghanistan.

Papers carry news that the great leader President Kim Il-song received a message of thanks from the general commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps of Iran who had visited Korea.

The chairman of the Indian Federation for World Cooperation and Cultural Relations said the new year address of President Kim Il-song is a highly important work of great significance in the struggle for world peace and socialism, says the press.

Papers print messages of greetings to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from foreign party leaders on the new year.

Carried in papers is a letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il from the participants of an Austrian national seminar on the pesent times and the chuche idea.

Comrade Kim Chong-il sent electronic amusement instruments to organs for extracurricular education of the youth and children throughout the country, reports the press.

Given in papers is an account of a national meeting held to mark the 65th anniversary of the foundation of SAENAL, a newspaper published and guided by President Kim Il-song during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Papers report about innovations in the production of electrical power, railway transport and in the production of consumer goods.

The press carries a statement issued by a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK regarding the slander of the United States and the South Korean authorities against the DPRK over the non-existent "chemical weapons."

"Vitality of Our-style Peculiar Correspondence Educational System" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

Papers inform the readers that the Jamaican governor-general received the Korean ambassador.

The chairman of the North side to the North-South joint nuclear control committee sent telephone messages to his southern counterpart urging him to respond to the 14th session of the committee and a contact of its members at an early date, according to papers.

NODONG SINMUN in an article brands the United States as the colonial ruler of South Korea and the very one who caused the national misfortunes.

MINJU CHOSON comes out with an article titled "The Countries Concerned Should Actively Cooperate in the Question of Korea's Reunification".

The paper in a commentary condemns the South Korean authorities for inciting a war fever against the North from the beginning of the new year.

Under the title "70 Million Nation Will Be Responsible for its Destiny by Itself and Will Take a Big Stride Toward Reunification" papers introduce the content of a letter written in prison by Im Chong-sok, former chairman of the national council of student representatives of South Korea.

Conveyed in papers are voices at home and abroad denouncing the decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

Taking much space of papers are foreign media tones and foreigners' voices praising the socialist system of Korea.

Foreign news columns of the press include reports that the Pakistani president referred to the way for the development of science and technology of his country, an emergency summit meeting of the organization of islamic conference denounced the deportation of Palestinians, the U.S.-led multi-national forces air-raided Iraq and the second Geneva talks on the former Yugoslavia was brought to a standstill.

NODONG SINMUN quotes the Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN as saying that the operational theatre of the U.S. Naval Force is being shifted to the coastal areas of the DPRK.

Papers round up voices of different countries regarding the signing of the "Start II" between Russia and the United States.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article exposing that the moves of Japan toward a military power have reached a dangerous stage, and MINJU CHOSON an article on the ever more impoverished spiritual and cultural life in capitalist society.

NODONG SINMUN Comments on Current Issues, Events

Functionaries Urged To Carry Out Party Will

SK1501024893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0008 GMT 14 Jan 93

[NODONG SINMUN 14 January editorial: "Functionaries Should Properly Carry on Operations and Organizational Work"]

[Text] Today, our people are carrying out fairly well the first combat of this year after receiving the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year's address.

In order to achieve brilliant innovative results in this year's combat in conformity with our people's high revolutionary zeal, all guiding functionaries should carry on operations and organizational work more tenaciously than ever.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught in his New Year's address as follows:

All guiding functionaries should firmly arouse the masses to struggle and to register feats and should tenaciously carry on operations and organizational work to implement the party line and policy by firmly giving priority to political work, in accordance with the demand of the Chongsan-ri spirit, the Chongsan-ri method, and the Taean work system that our party created.

Our guiding functionaries are core forces of the revolution and commanding members who carry on operations and organizational work.

Guiding functionaries' mission is very important in this year's combat, and the party's and the leader's expectations of them are great.

Success of every work mainly depends on operations and organizational work. How functionaries carry on operations and organizational command influences results of the socialist construction of this year.

Today we have a strong basis of self-reliant national economy which enables us to live by our own strength in any difficult conditions.

All that matters is how our guiding functionaries carry on operations and organizational work to efficiently mobilize and utilize these infinite potentials.

When our guiding functionaries boldly carry on operations and elaborately plan organizational work in accordance with the demand of developing realities, new innovations can be effected in the socialist construction.

In tenaciously carrying on operations and organizational work, nothing is more important than guiding functionaries' firm resolve and determination to implement to the end the militant task presented in the New Year's address.

Our socialist cause is an invincible cause advancing along the single road of victory on the chuche orbit.

We should bear more deeply the faith that our socialist cause will win victory without fail as long as we have the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

It is our party's firm determination to bring a remarkable turning point in socialist construction by making a revolutionary turnabout in this year's combat.

Bearing the intent and determination of the party and the leader as a firm faith, guiding functionaries should struggle more than anyone else, with faith in victory and optimism.

Functionaries should embody their determination and resolve in operations and organizational work. To do so, they should make the tasks presented in the New Year's address their own ones by deeply studying the assigned tasks in detail.

In particular, guiding functionaries in the coal, electric power, and metal industries should be aware of the party's intent to consider these sectors to be the main link in this year's economic construction and should carry on operations and organizational work with resolve and determination to effect new revolutionary upsurge in production.

Functionaries should master the great leader's teaching and the party policies for their own sector or unit in order to correctly carry on operations and organizational work.

The great leader's teaching and our party policy, in which the leader's teaching is embodied, are the basic guideline of operations and organizational work for achieving a victory in this year's combat.

When one follows the party policy, one can overcome all sorts of difficulties and can do everything in the world.

Functionaries should properly carry on combat operations and organizational work of this year, by linking the honorable tasks presented in the New Year's address with the party policy for their own sector or unit.

Guiding functionaries should master the party policy better than anyone else, should be well versed in it, and should thoroughly embody it in their practical activities.

It is an important demand in properly carrying on operations and organizational work for functionaries to get to grips with realities and to closely review the actual conditions with the producing masses knee to knee.

Realities have abundant reserves and potentials for increasing production. All that matters is how functionaries find, organize, and mobilize them.

Experience shows that when functionaries come down to the producing masses and carry on operations and organizational work among the masses based on a correct comprehension of realities, the operations and organizational work can be scientific and practical and can effect innovations.

All guiding functionaries should carry on operations among the masses and conduct organizational work in seething realities, following the great leader's lofty work method.

Finding the method of solving the problems and tasks presented in the New Year's address among the masses and implementing the assigned tasks by arousing the masses' revolutionary zeal and creative activeness is our functionaries' trait and work style.

Guiding functionaries should come down to the field and intensively discuss the method of implementing the tasks presented in the New Year's address with the producing masses. They should also mobilize and utilize to the utmost existing production potentials, by taking active measures for full operation of facilities.

All functionaries should become thinkers and enthusiasts and should have proficient organizational ability in order to carry on operations and organizational work.

Bold operation and proficient organizational work is the traditional work method of our party.

Functionaries should, more deeply than anyone else, think and study how to implement the tasks assigned to their sectors or units by the New Year's address, more deeply than anyone else and should make every effort to find a correct method to implement them.

Functionaries should set a high goal from the first combat of this year and should enable organizational work to come into gear like a toothed wheel, so as to effect greater innovation in production.

Great success can be achieved when operations and organizational work are delivered to lower levels and put into practice soon.

Functionaries should timely assign each sector and unit with struggling targets to implement the task presented in the New Year's address, and should speedily carry on organizational work in accordance with those targets.

Our guiding functionaries should always stand in front of the mine galleries, construction sites, and farms. Every corner of rugged and tough roads should ring with functionaries' agitating voices calling out slogans for inciting the masses to register feats.

As soldiers look at the face of their commander in a battle field, the masses can have faith and encouragement by looking at the guiding functionaries' trait and work style in the combat of socialist construction today.

When functionaries tenaciously carry on operations and organizational work for this year's combat, with firm faith and fighting spirit, the masses' revolutionary zeal will be highly advanced, and greater upsurge will be effected in socialist construction.

Urges Cancellation of Exercise

SK1501072793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0023 GMT 15 Jan 93

[NODONG SINMUN 15 January commentary: "Attempt To Finally Kick Off the Playing With Nuclear Fire"]

[Text] Our people in the North and the South, as well as the peaceloving people of the world, express concerns with aftermath of the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which the United States and the South Korean authorities are going to resume this year, on the situation on the Korean peninsula, on North-South dialogue and on implementation of the agreement. They raised voices demanding immediate cancellation of this nuclear war exercise plan.

Even some U.S. politicians raised voices criticizing the decision to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise as erroneous undesirable. This is indeed a natural phenomenon.

However, there are very alarming reports concerning the moves of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN reported recently that the carrier "Independence," whose mother port is Yokosuka—the U.S. naval base—is going to participate in the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

According to a relevant official in the port, with the approach of the Team Spirit joint military exercise, the carrier "Independence" is coming to Sasebo together with a number of ships including destroyers and frigates. This reveals that the United States and the South Korean authorities, assuming the resumption of war exercise as an established fact, are accelerating its preparations. This also forecast that the Team Spirit war exercise will be a large-scale game with fire in which enormous armed forces will be mobilized.

Defying the demand of public opinion at home and abroad to abandon the Team Spirit joint military exercise, the United States and the South Korean authorities are playing with fire in attempting to finally resume the nuclear war. This is a grave challenge to peace on the Korean peninsula and to the cause of national reunification, thus evoking great indignation from our people.

As is known, the North and the South pledged to jointly advance toward reunification in response to the historic agreement by reconciling and cooperating with each other and refraining from fighting.

The cold war came to an end in the international arena and the desire for independence and peace has been enhanced. The changed situation at home and abroad raises as an indispensable demand the abandonment of the Team Spirit game with fire, which is a product of the cold war era.

This notwithstanding, in October last year, the United States and the South Korean authorities decided to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise by spreading rumors on nonexistent nuclear suspicions in the North. They are going to finally stage this exercise in defiance of our repeated warnings. This absolutely will not be tolerable.

As is known to the public, the Team Spirit joint military exercise is a preliminary war designed to attack the northern half of the Republic with armed forces. The decision to resume such war playing with fire eloquently shows how persistently the United States is pursuing its ambition for invading all of Korea.

The United States announced that it would suspend the Team Spirit joint military exercise last year. However, the United States accelerated its preparations by assuming it as an established fact.

The commander-in-chief of the U.S. Pacific Command flew into South Korea in July last year and inspected the operation's intelligence center and military bases, for this year's Team Spirit joint military exercise. In August, the United States established a medical intelligence management system in South Korea in a bid to reduce the number of the dead and wounded persons during the Team Spirit war exercise. Following this, the United States held conferences concerning the Team Spirit exercise one after another, and discussed the issue of introducing most modern strategy and tactics to this year's exercise.

All facts show that the United States has not made any revision on its aggressive Korean policy despite changes in the situation at home and abroad. They also show that the United States is merely adhering to the outdated cold war period's policy of strength.

What should not be overlooked is the fact that the United States and the South Korean authorities, which announced last year that they would suspend the war exercise with a view to giving help to North-South dialogue and relaxation of tensions, are going to resume it today when the North-South agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration were adopted and effected and all fellow countrymen are viewing the impending future of reunification.

This shows that the United States does not seek North-South dialogue and reunification but seeks to aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula, to continue its policy of occupation of South Korea and to ignite the fuse of a northward war of aggression, if necessary.

The South Korean authorities are advancing along the road of hurting fellow countrymen in collaboration with outside forces by discarding the pledge made with their fellow people, thus showing their antinational nature.

The United States and the South Korean authorities are collaborating with each other in attempting to gain something by threatening us with strength and by unhesitatingly provoking the northward war of aggression. However, this is a miscalculation.

The Team Spirit game with fire will not bring good consequences to the United States and South Korea. Instead of giving lip service to the end of the cold war and arrival of the era of peace, the United States should not carry out acts straining the situation on the Korean peninsula. Instead of hurting fellow countrymen in collaboration with outside forces, the South Korean authorities should advance to achieve national reunification in unity with fellow countrymen.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities finally stage the Team Spirit joint military exercise this year, they will be held totally responsible for all consequences that result and will be unable to avoid stern denunciation at home and abroad.

U.S. 'Domination' Must End

SK1501103393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 15 Jan 93

["The U.S. Must Stop Domination and Interference in Korea, Urges NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today urges the United States to take its hands of domination and interference off the Korean peninsula.

To put an end to the U.S. domination and interference in South Korea is a unanimous demand of the South Korean people who are struggling for independence, democracy and reunification, says the paper in a bylined article, adding:

In the eyes of the South Korean people, the U.S. forces occupying South Korea are the very ones ruthlessly violating the sovereignty of the nation, stifling democracy, propping up the fascist rule and bringing all misfortunes, sufferings and disasters.

The power holder in South Korea is not the South Korean "government" but the U.S. Embassy in Seoul and the real ruler is not the South Korean "president" but the United States. The change of "power" and the policies in all fields—politics, the economy, military and culture—have been shaped as demanded by the United States, irrespective of the people's will, and implemented in the U.S. interests.

The United States, for the security of its colonial rule, has never allowed the democratic development of the South Korean society.

The United States is the very one that has divided the Korean nation into two.

It intends to keep hold on South Korea indefinitely as its colony and nuclear military base and gratify its wild ambition to dominate the whole of Korea and Asia and, furthermore, the whole world with South Korea as the springboard. This is why the United States has encouraged the South Korean military fascist dictators to brutally suppress the pro-reunification, patriotic forces and persistently spoil the atmosphere of peace and reunification between the North and the South on every opportunity.

Facts show that as long as the U.S. colonial domination and interference continue in South Korea, the desire of the South Korean people for independence, democracy and reunification can never be realised.

The United States, as demanded by the South Korean people, must look straight at the will of the Korean nation for reunification, withdraw its aggressive forces and all the nuclear weapons from South Korea and take its hands of domination and interference off the Korean peninsula.

Sees Japanese Military Threat

SK1501114393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 15 Jan 93

["Japan's Move To Become Military Power Reaches Dangerous Stage"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—The Japanese ruling quarters are working at fever pitch to arm the country with nuclear weapons and turn it into a military power, captive to a dream of ranking among the great powers and bringing Asia under their domination, taking advantage of the changed international situation after the collapse of the balance of forces.

NODONG SINMUN says in a signed article today:

A graphic example of their policy of arms expansion to become a military power is that the Japanese Government allocated 4,640,600 million yen to military spendings this year, much more than last year.

Japan finds herself on the third top rung of the world's ladder of military appropriations. The Japanese government plans to disburse 22,750 billion yen in military spendings in the current five-year arms buildup program period so as to radically increase the military equipment. The Japanese authorities are arming the "Self-Defence Forces" [SDF] with new-type weapons and making the military equipment highly efficient and automatic.

What is noteworthy is that the Japanese ruling quarters, with much talk about "defence of the sea routes," extended the operational zone of the "SDF" up to the Malacca strait and plan to introduce the combat equipment needed for it.

Japan is possessed of lots of nuclear facilities and is promoting the development of nuclear weapons. It is not fortuitous that the Japanese authorities intend to produce, import and stockpile plutonium much more than needed for the manufacture of nuclear arms under the cloak of "use for peaceful purposes."

The ulterior intention of Japan is to stockpile a vast amount of plutonium, mass-produce nuclear aros when necessary and become a nuclear power.

Japan's nuclear armament and move to become a military power are oriented to overseas expansion, which poses a great potential danger. The overseas dispatch of the "SDF" equipped with modern arms has been legalized under the veil of "cooperation in U.N. peacekeeping operations" and "international conoribution."

The armament expansion and arms buildup of the Japanese reactionary ruling quarters are aimed at realizing the old dream of "the greater east Asia co-prosperioy sphere."

The Japanese reactionaries must discard the ambition for overseas expansion and stop the move to become a military power.

Stresses 'Socialism of Our Own Style'

SK1501115493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1049 GMT 15 Jan 93

["NODONG SINMUN Calls for Defending and Exalting Socialism With Unshakable Conviction and Will"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—Let us firmly defend and exalt the socialism of our own style with an unshakable conviction and will—this is the slogan we should uphold in our struggle and advance at present, says NODONG SINMUN in an editorial today.

The present-day revolutionary situation in which the imperialists are trying viciously to isolate and stifle our country which is letting the banner of socialism fly high makes it urgent to more reliably consolidate our powerful revolutionary position, the position of socialism, so as to smash the enemy's counterrevolutionary offensive, the editorial says, and goes on:

Our socialist position is, in essence, a position of ideology and a bastion of our people's conviction and will.

Our party's conviction and will is the conviction of chuche that socialism should be advanced and carried to accomplishment along the unique road of our own style, the road paved by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, in any storm and stress; it is the iron will to smash any anti-socialist moves and open the way for a new upswing in the revolution.

The conviction that we are sure to win victory when we follow the tested leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is the core of our people's conviction today.

The editorial further says:

Our cause is just, and we have all conditions and possibilities for victory. Now is not the time when we had to fight a bloody war against Japanese imperialism empty-handed, not the period of postwar reconstruction when we were building socialism on the ruins, without a piece of brick unbroken. Now we have built greater strength both politically and ideologically and materially.

At the head of our revolution there stands the great leader and the illustrious leader, and we have the ever-victorious party, strong revolutionary Armed Forces and a faithful people rallied close behind the party and the leader. We have nothing to fear and to be afraid of.

When the whole party and all the people staunchly fight with unshakable conviction and will socialism will be ours and victory will be in store for us for ever.

Advantages of Correspondence Education

SK1501115693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 15 Jan 93

["Vitality of Korean-style Correspondence Course"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a by-lined article explaining the advantages and vitality of the evening correspondence course peculiar to Korea established by the great leader President Kim Il-song in January 1973.

The article says this method of education is one of the study-while-working methods of higher learning in which the valuable feats and experience gained in the operation of revolutionary evening study groups organized and guided by the great leader during the anti-Japanese armed struggle has been developed to suit the practical demand of socialist construction.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"Since the form of evening and correspondence courses is an excellent one which enables working people to study and work at the same time, it must be consolidated."

The advantages of the evening correspndence course find expression in that it enables working people to study in the networks of higher learning while at work and makes it easy to provide teaching collectives and material conditions necessary to implement the policy of the intellectual development of the whole society.

The networks enlist a large number of working people in different parts of the country and teachers go to their places to teach them.

The advantages find expression also in that this form of education makes it possible to train in a short period larger numbers of competent native cadres possessed of the revolutionary world outlook and a high degree of scientific and technical knowledge and practical ability.

For its intrinsic advantages, the evening correspondence course is one of powerful educational methods in the study-while-working networks of higher learning.

This form of education has been extensively introduced in the agricultural domain and in industry, transport, construction, fisheries and all other branches of the national economy. Through these networks more than 16,000 technicians and experts have been trained at some 30 universities and colleges in the past two decades.

As a result, the technical staff of industrial establishments and cooperative farms has been further consolidated to ensure production on a scientfic and technical basis.

The correspondence course is available even in areas without factory, farm and fishing village colleges so that the educational networks could be distributed in a balanced way throughout the country and all the areas could develop evenly.

Honors Kim Chong-il Work

SK1401135093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1104 GMT 14 Jan 93

["Highly Important Guideline for Revolutionary Change in Party Work"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article by Pae Yong-sop, chief secretary of the Unjon County, North Pyongan Province, committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on the lapse of ten years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il published his work "Let Us Bring About a Revolutionary Change in Party Work as Required by the Present Situation."

The article says:

The work gives a comprehensive exposition of important ideas and theories of party work, including the strengthening of ideological education among the party members and other working people to train them into true revolutionaries of chuche type, the establishment of effective party leadership over economic construction and the strict application of the great leader's work method by officials.

The validity and vitality of the work have been proved fully in the building of socialism as it has served as a highly important guideline for the party organizations in meeting the requirements of the obtaining situation and our developing revolution. The unity of the leader, the party and the masses has been consolidated on the highest plane and our socialist cause has advanced victoriously, mainly because our party and people pushed ahead with the revolution and construction in reliance on the ideas and theories set out in the work.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"...In order to successfully fulfil the revolutionary tasks facing us, we must increase the militancy of the party, thoroughly establish the party's leadership over the revolution and construction and train the party members and other working people into true communist revolutionaries equipped with a firm revolutionary outlook on the leader."

The work has enabled the party organizations to train the party members and other working people into chuche-type revolutionaries equipped with an unshakable faith in victory and a strong will, reinforce the driving force of our revolution, strengthen the party's leadership over economic construction and fully perform their duty as political organizations.

The ideas, theories and policies set out in the work have enabled the party organizations and party officials to mix with the workers and conduct a vigorous political work among them so that they might push ahead with production and construction, giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard work.

The work has enabled the officials to actively follow the great leader's work method and bring about a new turn in party work.

The work also calls on all officials to find themselves at the lower units and mix with the masses, always take the lead in every work and shoulder any difficult, toilsome work before anyone else.

Thus, the work has served as an important guideline in bringing about a great turn in the work method and style of all the leading officials.

Views 'Global Independence'

SK1401114993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 14 Jan 93

["Global Independence is DPRK Government's Consistent Policy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article headlined "Global Independence is DPRK Government's Consistent Policy".

In his New Year address the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song reiterated the consistent foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, clarifying the invariable stand of the DPRK Government to exert every possible effort to make the whole world independent, the article notes.

It quotes Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"However complex the situation is, we will hold fast to independence, be faithful to the revolutionary principle and our international duty and we will make every possible effort to make the whole world independent and develop friendly and cooperative relations with the peoples of socialist and non-aligned countries and with the peoples of many other countries around the world."

The article reads in part:

The government of our Republic is actively striving for the independence of the whole world.

It is, above all, firmly maintaining independence in the state activities.

It shapes all lines and policies independently in conformity with its specific conditions and carries them out by its own efforts and thorougly exercises sovereignty in external relations.

It strongly rejects all manner of interference, pressure, :threats and blackmail from outside forces and, at the same time, respects independence of other countries and resolutely opposes any attempts and moves to infringe upon other's soverzignty and interests and interfere in other's internal affairs.

The government of our Republic is consistently pursuing the peaceful foreign policy.

The government set it as an important task of its foreign policy to create a peaceful environment favourable to the cause of socialism and the cause of national Reunification of our people and ensure durable, lasting peace and security in the world.

In particular, it is making all sincere efforts to prevent the outbreak of another war and ensure peace and security on the Korean peninsula and solve the question of reunification of the country peacefully.

It is promoting the cause of independence of the whole world by strengthening unity with the people all over the world who advocate independence.

"Let the world people who advocate independence unite"—this is the slogan raised by our times and the common banner of mankind for the independence of the whole world. Holding aloft this banner, the government of our Republic is steadily developing friendly and cooperative relations with the peoples of socialist and non-aligned countries and with the peoples of many other countries around the world on the basis of mutual respect for independence and complete equality and extending positive support and solidarity to their cause of independence.

The government of our Republic established friendly and cooperative relations with all the countries in the world which are friendly toward our country and is developing economic and cultural exchange with them.

The Korean people will unite with the world people who advocate independence, under the banner of independence, peace and friendship, and make greater contributions to the sacred cause for the building of an independent new world.

South Korea

Iraqi Ambassador Says Crisis Fostered by West

SK1401151993 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 14 Jan 93 p 4

[Interview with Iraqi Ambassador to ROK Burhan Ghazal by reporter Yun Yang-sop on 13 January—place not given]

[Text] "The United States is exaggerating the Iraqi crisis to invade us. On the surface, the United States calls for human rights, but that is nothing but a powerful country's logic based on strength. If there is an invasion, we will mobilize all possible means to fight against it."

Right after 1500 on 13 January when reports broke out that the United States had decided to punish Iraq, and that an attack on Iraq was imminent, Iraqi Ambassador Burhan Ghazal started to talk as if he had much to say. He said: "The current crisis has been fostered by the Western countries."

He criticized the West by saying that even though it is calling for humanitarianism in the Bosnia and Herzegovina situation, where many people are being sacrificed even today, it has not imposed any sanctions against Serbia. He said: "If Iraq is attacked, the Western countries will have to punish Israel in the same way to solve the problem of the Palestinians who were driven out by Israel. Nevertheless, the Western countries are not showing any indication of doing this." He claimed, therefore, that the attack on Iraq is unjust.

[Yun] What is the Iraqi Government's position on the no-fly zone?

[Ghazal] As a sovereign state, we do not recognize this. It is unthinkable for another country to draw an artificial line on a sovereign state. Moreover, the no-fly zone was by no means recognized by the United Nations. It was decided on unilaterally by some Western countries with the United States at the center.

[Yun] Iraq dispatched anti-aircraft missiles into the no-fly zone and then moved them, thus irritating the Western countries. What is the reason for this?

[Ghazal] We did not suddenly dispatch missiles into the so- called no-fly zone as Western media reported. The missiles were there before. Nothing has changed. Moreover, we are free to dispatch the missiles wherever we want. We do not intimidate anyone. We only intend to defend our territory.

[Yun] For four days consecutively from 10 January, Iraq went over the Kuwaiti border and took Silkworm missiles and various weapons. As the obviously defeated country of the Gulf war, can such an act be justified?

[Ghazal] It was not a seizure. We only retrieved our equipment as the United Nations said we could.

Ambassador Ghazal gave a rather short answer on this matter. Since the media recently reported on this matter every day, he showed documents written in Arabic that he had already prepared. He explained in detail concerning the deadline set by the United Nations. He said that on 29 November 1992, we were notified by the head of the U.N. observer group to retrieve Iraq's equipment by 15 January 1993. He said: "We started to recover our equipment from that time, and that this was being carried out wholly under the agreement of the U.N. observer group."

He also showed me underlined parts of an English paper and said: "We went to retrieve our equipment on 2 January. At that time there were no problems. Why are there problems now?" He said with a smile that it seems that U.S. President George Bush is trying to provoke President Saddam Husayn by raising problems.

Regarding the new border he explained: "The border established by the Committee To Establish Borders was drawn in a disadvantageous way for Iraq. The border must be agreed upon between Iraq and Kuwait so it is not definite yet. Some parts were agreed upon and some were not."

[Yun] There were reports that the Iraqis who were dressed as civilians and who were dismantling weapons and equipment were in reality soldiers. It seems that no one can retrieve the missiles except for the Army...

[Ghazal] They are contract workers, not soldiers. The report that they were armed is preposterous. We will retrieve our property until the U.N. expiration date.

[Yun] The director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency revealed that President Husayn is making strong moves to turn attention to someplace else because he is receiving pressure from within...

[Ghazal] It is true that the people are suffering because of the U.N. economic blockade. President Husayn, however, is not threatened by this.

Economic Groups Expect Few Problems From U.S. Gulf Actions

SK1401095093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0524 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The government is keeping a close eye on developments in the Gulf after coalition planes attacked Iraq early Thursday, government sources said.

The Economic Planning Board and relevant ministries don't expect the blitz to influence the Korean economy much, the sources said. "There is little possibility of it developing into an all-out war this time," one official said, adding that the government was evaulating the impact on international oil prices and Mid-East construction projects.

Oil prices made a slight rally following the air strike and will soon stabilize as oil exports by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will not be affected by the incident, the sources forecast.

Gulf War Losses Estimated at $2 Billion

SK1501022393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0208 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Gulf war has cost South Korea an estimated 2 billion U.S. dollars, government sources said Friday.

Korean companies have been denied access to any post-war rehabilitation work in Kuwait despite the country's "disproportionately large" financial contribution to the multinational forces and dispatch of medical personnel, the sources complained.

The cost is estimated at over 2 billion dollars—500 million dollars in direct support for the coalition and some 1.55 billion dollars that Korean companies are owed for construction work and exports.

Korea paid 385 million dollars to the United States and Britain and 115 million dollars to other coalition members, they said.

The cost could be higher as indirect contributions such as the dispatch of the medical personnel were not considered.

Eight Korean construction companies engaged in projects in Iraq are estimated to have lost 1,203 million dollars, mostly dues, while five Korean companies in Kuwait lost an estimated 50 million dollars in damage to their equipments.

In addition, Korean construction companies spent 2,425,000 dollars to evacuate 970 employees and their families, making their direct loss 1,255 million dollars.

The companies still haven't yet been paid for the damage two years after the war.

Iraq hasn't paid 280 million dollars it owes 15 Korean companies for imports, and if other expenses, including those for evacuation of personnel, are considered the loss is estimated to be more than 300 million dollars.

The government asked the United Nations Security Council in October 1991 for compensation for victim countries as the council claimed 30 percent of Iraqi oil exports, but South Korea hasn't been paid yet.

What is worse, no Korean company was allowed to participate in rehabilitation projects in Kuwait, while U.S. companies grasped 70 percent of the work and 30 percent went to British and French companies.

Korea's exports accounted for 0.3 percent of the Kuwaiti imports while those of the United States and Japan stood at 11.6 percent and 11.1 percent, respectively.

In addition, Baghdad requisitioned some 1.2 million dollars of Korean-owned equipment in the wake of the coalition air raid on Wednesday, raising the loss, the sources added.

Unification Board Views Inter-Korean Contacts

SK1401100393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0817 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—A total of 2,436 South Koreans had contacts with North Koreans on government approval in 496 cases as of December last year since the inception in June 1989 of the basic guidance for inter-Korean exchange and cooperation, the National Unification Board [NUB] said Thursday.

The government had given 4,954 people approval (1,656 cases) in the 42 months but 2,436 of them actually met with North Koreans as planned, an NUB spokesman said. He said applicants for government permission had amounted to 5,374 in 1,826 cases. Of the meetings, 277 were reunions of separated family members (232 cases), 264 were for business (112 cases) and 791 were for academic affairs (52 cases).

The board approved 209 million U.S. dollars of trade between South and North Korea in 1992, up 8.9 percent from 1991. South-bound trade permits totaled 198 million dollars, up 19.3 percent, and North-bound was 11 million dollars, down 57 percent. Applications for contact have decreased since October, when a North Korean spy ring was uncovered, the official said.

Kim Yong-sam To Promote Sports With DPRK

SK1501003393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0012 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam plans to promote the formation of joint sports teams for international games and the co-sponsorship of cultural and sporting events with North Korea, one of his aides said Friday.

As a starter, South Korea plans to propose to the North that they form a unified team for the 12th Asian games, to be held in Hiroshima, Japan, in October 1994, the aide said. The proposal will be made when Seoul and Pyongyang resume the inter-Korea conference on sports in the first quarter of this year, he said.

Moreover, the South will table a plan to jointly hold a sporting event in Seoul in 1995, marking the 50th anniversary of Korea's independence from Japan, said the aide who declined to be identified by name.

"President-elect Kim hopes to help recover the homogeneity of the Korean people and to provide the ground for eventual unification by stepping up sports and cultural exchanges between the two Koreas," the aide said.

Kim aides are also studying the possibility of holding other cultural events such as concerts, art exhibitions and art festivals, marking occasions like Aug. 15 independence day, the March 1 independence movement day and Chusok or moon festival, he said.

To carry out these plans, the two sides should form a permanent organization and sign an agreement for cultural and sport exchanges, he said.

South and North Korea sent a unified team to the World Youth Soccer Games in Portugal and the world table tennis championship in Chiba, Japan, in 1991.

Inter-Korean Commodity Exchanges 'Slumping'

SK1401133893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1131 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Inter-Korean commodity exchanges have rapidly been slumping for three straight months since last October.

According to the Trade and Industry Ministry Thursday, commodity exchanges between South and North Korea, which had steadily increased in the first nine months of last year, amounted to 11,881,000 dollars in last October, down 36 percent from a year earlier, 15,317,000 dollars in November, a decline of 47 percent, and 14,142,000 dollars in December, down 12 percent, respectively.

In the first seven months of last year, the volume of South-North commodity exchanges rose as much as 50.8 percent over the like period of the previous year to 139,640,000 dollars.

However, the August-December period of 1992 saw commodity exchanges total only 70,585,000 dollars, down 29.1 percent from the like period of 1991.

As a result, the two-way volume last year reached 210,225,000 dollars on an approval basis, a rise of mere 9.4 percent over the previous year.

The total included the South's shipment of goods worth 11,387,000 dollars, down 56.5 percent from the previous year, and introduction of items valued at 198,838,000 dollars, up 19.8 percent.

The items shipped to the North included low-density polyethylene worth 7,468,000 dollars, cold-rolled plate 2,102,000 dollars and garments 124,000 dollars.

Among those introduced from the North were nonferrous metal worth 64,394,000 dollars, precious metal 36,842,000 dollars, construction materials 31,344,000 dollars and farm and fishery products 40,777,000 dollars.

As for the method of exchanges, the two sides engaged in indirect exchanges in the past through third-country middlemen.

Lately, however, South and North Korean businessmen directly meet and conclude deals in third countries like China with price alone being settled by way of third countries.

Kim Il-song's Health Care Methods Studied

SK1501072393 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 15 Jan 93 p 2

[Article by reporter Sol Wan-sik]

[Text] In an attempt to enjoy illness-free longevity, North Korean President Kim Il-song has been employing all sorts of methods, such as comedians to make him laugh and artificially drawing in clean air, according to an observation.

He employs such "carnivalistic" shock therapies as regularly receiving the transfusion of the blood of virgin girls, bathing in a hormone bath tub, and somatological experiments, according to the observation.

According to "How Kim Il-song Manages His Health" carried by the December 1992 issue of MONTHLY NORTH KOREAN MOVES which the National Unification Board published, compiling and editing the testimonies of overseas compatriots who have recently visited the North and information gathered by the Agency for National Security Planning, this health regime in North Korea has been staged in a full-fledged manner under the direction of Kim Chong-il since Kim Il-song's 80th birthday (15 April 1992).

North Korea has been operating the "Kim Il-song Longevity Research Institute" since the 1970's using various prescriptions to promote Kim Il-song's health and long life. The institute has of late begun to employ various novel methods.

Among these methods is the operation of a comic team consisting of seven persons with talents of witty talk. The team's duty is to amuse Kim Il-song and make him laugh. The members of this team take turns every day making Kim Il-song laugh, which is good for the health, with comic talk and jocular gestures.

Aware that clean air is good for the health, the North Korean authorities bring the air of Mt. Ami behind the presidential palace (Kumsusan Assembly Hall) into Kim Il-song's presidential office, livingroom, and bedroom.

For this, the Presidential Guard General Bureau forcibly moved the residents near Mt. Ami to other localities and buried underground large air-induction pipes of 15 to 20 meters in length and 1.2 meters in diameter.

To take make highly-active white corpuscles, hemoglobin, and albumin, Kim Il-song regularly receives blood transfusions from virgins 18-years old or younger with the same blood type as his. He even enjoys hormone baths with the "joy team" from Yanggang and Chagang Provinces.

Kim Il-song often eats 500-year-old wild ginseng and the heal-all herb which is said to grow only in Mt. Paektu. A particularly shocking piece of information is that North Korea perpetrates somatological experiments to find remedies for the illness which Kim Il-song is suffering or may be suffering from in the future.

At the ten specialized clinics, including cardiovascular, urology, and gastrointestinal clinics, of the Pyongyang Red-Cross General Hospital, a "guinea pig group" composed of patients of similar age and constitution to Kim Il-song's is organized to conduct trials of various new medicines in these patients and to observe their physical reactions to medicines and therapies.

According to the analysis of the Unification Board, North Korea is using the aforementioned inhuman methods to extend Kim Il-song's life to prevent as best as possible the crisis of Kim Chong-il's succession to power that may result by the sudden death of Kim Il-song.

It seems that Kim Chong-il has been involving himself in the management of his father's health apparently because of his concern for such a potential crisis.

DLP Suggests No Follow Bush's Example

SK1501063493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0515 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] called on Friday for the government to make decisions on troublesome issues such as rice imports before it leaves office.

The party, in an editorial in its monthly the Minja-bo, said that it had learned a lot from the transition in the United States.

The outgoing administration of President George Bush was smoothing the road for the incoming administration by making unpopular decisions on its behalf, the editorial said.

It called on President No Tae-u to solve problems for President-elect Kim Yong-sam, citing as an example Bush's action against Iraq.

Kim's transition team hasn't taken a stand on sensitive issues.

DLP Reaffirms Opposition to Rice Opening

SK1501095993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0921 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Democratic Liberal Party denied Friday that an editorial in the party organ calling on the incumbent administration to resolve the issue of rice market opening was the party's official position.

"We are looking into how a report that is basically different from the official party position came to be carried by the party organ," party spokesman Pak Hui-tae said.

The MINJA-BO urged the government to solve the controversial rice market issue to ease the burden on the next administration.

"The organ's report may give the impression that our party position has changed toward the Uruguay Round talks, especially on the issue of the rice market, but there is no change at all in our stand that we are opposed to rice imports," Pak said.

NSP Official Says Agency To Stay Out of Politics

SK1401100593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea's counterespionage agency for National Security Planning (NSP) will stop intervening in politics, and content itself with gathering and analyzing information on spies, technologies and economics, NSP first deputy director Son Chin-kon told President-elect Kim Yong-sam's transition team Thursday.

A team source said Son told the team that the NSP would make public the results of its investigation into a large North Korean spy ring that ensnared some of Korea's most famous dissidents. The NSP was investigating if politicians had been involved in the spy ring, Son said according to the source. There might be a major shake-up of the NSP after Kim took the oath of office in February, he said.

In other reports, Yun Song-tae, chief of the premier office's administrative coordination office, said the prime minister's office would work closely with presidential committees which would be set up to cure the "Korean disease" pointed out by the president-elect.

Yi Yang-hui, assistant to the first state minister for political affairs, said the ministry would help improve relations with opposition parties and dissident groups as much as possible by providing policy materials.

Yi Hyon-ku, assistant to the second minister for political affairs, reported that a fund would be set up to help expand women's participation in socio-political activities and that efforts would be made to enact an equal employment law for men and women. The team will brief Kim on the reports Jan. 19-20.

No's Government Evaluates Accomplishments

SK1401042293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0321 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The government, which steps down in about a month, evaluated its accomplishments over the past five years, and gave itself a pat on the back Thursday in a meeting presided over by President No Tae-u.

Yun Song-tae, chief of the Premier Office's Administrative Coordination Office, told the meeting that under the three policy guidelines of democratization, autonomy and opening the government had vigorously pursued details and election pledges to translate the presidential pledge of a "Grand Era of the Ordinary People" into action.

Of No's 459 pledges, the government had fulfilled 260 (57 percent) and was working on the other 199.

"In terms of democratization, the government has ushered in an era of democratic development while eradicating authoritarianism, honoring human rights and resurrection of the local autonomy system," Yun said.

"Outwardly, the government has made every effort to actively pursue northern diplomacy and unification policy, thereby elevating the prestige of Korea in the international community and laying the groundwork for peaceful unification."

Yun listed legal reforms including the establishment of the Constitution Court, revision of the National Security Law and a free press, as achievements of No's government which will step down on Feb. 25.

He named local autonomy, democratic elections, revitalized administration and fair personnel management as tasks for the next government.

Choe Yong-chol, National Unification Minister, emphasized that the thorny issues of North Korea's nuclear development and reunion of separated families should be solved first if the two Koreas could improve bilateral relations.

Vice Foreign Minister No Chang-hui said the government had improved security conditions and laid the ground for unification with the establishment of diplomatic relations with 25 former and current communist countries and the simultaneous entry into the United Nations of the two Koreas.

No said the government should consolidate friendly ties with its allies, including the United States and Japan, while developing good neighborly relations with Russia and China.

Defense Minister Choe Se-chang said Seoul had created a military strategic environment surpassing North Korea by its participation in the Gulf war and United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (PKO), adding that watertight defense and medium- and long-term military stratagems were desperately needed against any North Korean attempt.

Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu said the economy had registered average annual growth of 8.5 percent while per capita gross national product had jumped from 3,110 U.S. dollars in 1987 to 6,700 dollars last year.

Choe noted that businesses have been creating a climate of developing technologies and management renovations to adapt to new competition.

Culture Minister Yi Su-chong said that the government had tried during the last five years to add vitality to cultural activities, but more investment was needed to turn Korea into a cultured welfare state in the 21st century.

No, winding up the meeting, said that the paramount tasks facing the nation were to join the ranks of advanced countries and accomplish national unification.

He asked the participants to help the next government, headed by Kim Yong-sam, successfully pursue the goals.

While praising his own government for the peaceful transition, No expressed regret over the postponement of local autonomy due to immature economic and social conditions.

On northern diplomacy and the climate for unification, No conceded that inter-Korean relations are frozen due to some knotty issues includng the nuclear matter but said he was sure that the next government would open a new chapter in consideration of current international situations.

The economy inevitably underwent restructuring during the past five years, which could prove to be instrumental in accelerated economic development for the next government, he said.

Economists, Businessmen View No's Record

SK1501072493 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Jan 93 p 9

[By staff reporter Sa Tong-sok]

[Text] As the days of the No Tae-u administration are numbered, public attention is focused on the rating of his economic achievements during his five-year term.

No and his economic team gathered at the presidential office yesterday to evaluate what they claim was achieved in the economic sector during the Sixth Republic and gave themselves a pat on the back.

Much of the session was devoted to enumerating positive results reaped the last five years but their self-praising efforts were felt by many businessmen and economists as being out of line.

Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu concluded in his report to No that the Sixth Republic is evaluated to have made a big stride in accelerating a combination of political democratization and economic progress.

Over the last five years, the country's economic growth averaged 8.5 percent in real terms annually, doubling per capita GNP (gross national product) to an estimated 6,700 dollars last year from the 3,110 dollars in 1987, one year before No took office.

The disposable income of an urban household also nearly doubled to about 1,079,000 won a month in 1991 from the 516,000 won in 1987 and that of a farm household soared from 553,000 won to 1,092,000 won during the period.

The social welfare system made a great advancement with the introduction of medical insurance for all citizens, national pension and minimum wage systems. The supply of residential units increased significantly, helped by a mammoth project to build two million housing units.

The inflation rate, which approached almost double digits in 1990 and 1991, plummeted to 4.5 percent last year, thanks to the government-initiated stabilization economic policies and market interest rates slipped to around 13 percent recently from a high of 19 percent recently from a high of 19 percent in late 1991.

In parallel with the overall rise in living standards, per capita consumption of beef rose from 3.6 kilogram in 1987 to 5.1 kg last year and the number of privately owned cars soared from 720,000 to 3,260,000.

The road pavement rate also climbed from 79.5 percent in 1987 to 97 percent last year, buoyed by the expansion in fiscal spending on social infrastructure. Stringent measures were also carried out to sharpen the competitiveness of the manufacturing sector with a sharp increase in outlays for research and development.

While Choe's report was devoted mostly to bringing the No administration's bright economic performances to light, economists and businessmen appear stingy in giving good marks to No in the economic sector.

Economists say No's economic record books are dotted with failures and face difficulties pinpointing his "greatest" achievements unlike his predecessor Chon Tu-hwan, who succeeded in reining in inflation and laying a solid foundation for subsequent economic growth.

Among other things, the rapid dwindling of economic growth is cited as one of his biggest policy failures. Although No's economic team defends itself by saying the slowdown has been caused in the process of industrial restructuring, economists say it is the natural result of policy failures.

They say No's economic team has frequently failed to meet the macroeconomic changes in time, claiming that No should have started stabilization economic policies earlier.

"His failure to be in time is believed to be causing a string of bankruptcies among small- and medium-size companies," an economist said, adding that he should have pursued stability further during his earlier year in office.

Businessmen also complain that his lack of resolution has led to the spiral in labor wages, sending Korea's overall international competitive edge to crash all of a sudden.

Inflation and the current account balance are also cited as model failures committed by the No administration. Although inflation stabilized at 4.5 percent last year, most of his presidential term was a struggle against inflation, which posted near double-digit gains in 1990 and 1991.

The current account balance turned into the red in 1990 after short-lived surpluses. In 1988, his first year in office, the current account was recorded at 14.1 billion dollars in the black but the surplus plunged to 5 billion dollars the following year.

In 1991, the current account balance retreated to 8.7 billion dollars in the red with a surge in imports and a slowdown in exports. Even if the current account deficit narrowed to an estimated 4.3 billion dollars in 1992, economists predict rough sailing in putting the surplus back on track in the near future.

Second Summons Served for Chong Chu-yong

SK1401133593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1044 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Prosecutor's Office served a second summons Thursday on Chong Chu-yong, head of the United People's Party, telling him to show up at the prosecution Saturday morning for questioning over alleged election law violations.

The second summons was issued after Chong failed to report to the prosecution Thursday morning as the first summons demanded.

If Chong refuses to answer the second summons, too, the prosecution plan to forcibly carry him to the prosecution office by obtaining a warrant from a court.

"Mr. Chong offered to report to the prosecution on Jan. 25 after attending the U.S. presidential inauguration slated for Jan. 20, but we turned it down," a prosecution official said.

The official emphasized that Chong would not be allowed to leave the country as long as he refuses to answer the prosecution summons.

"In view of his unscheduled attempt to leave the country Wednesday, we cannot but regard his planned going abroad as an attempt to escape investigation by the prosecution," he said.

Chong Chu-yong Fails To Appear in Court

SK1401040093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0325 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The prosecution decided Thursday that it will issue a second summons to Chong Chu-yong, leader of the United People's Party, asking him to report to the Seoul district prosecutor's office on Saturday. The UPP presidential candidate failed to show up on Thursday morning. The prosecution also decided to seek an arrest warrant for Chong if he ignores the summons.

A prosecution investigator said Kim Hyo-yong, the UPP secretary-general, had informed the prosecutor's office that Chong would report for questioning after Jan. 20, when he is to return from a visit to the United States. Chong is banned from traveling abroad, however.

"The prosecution would keep investigating according to its own plan irrespective of that request," he said.

He said Chong gave a "heavy impression" that he was trying to avoid questioning by attempting to leave the country on the eve of the date he was supposed to report to the prosecution.

The prosecution had no problem with prosecuting Chong as it had testimony from Hyundai executives supporting allegations that money from a Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. slush fund was given to the UPP on Chong's instructions.

UPP Demands Government Lift Ban on Chong's Travel

SK1401110793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0710 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The United People's Party [UPP] demanded Thursday the government lift an overseas travel ban on Chong Chu-yong so that its leader can attend the inauguration of U.S. President Bill Clinton in Washington on Jan. 20.

In a separate development, President No Tae-u and Kim Tae-chung, presidential candidate of the Democratic Party, had lunch at Chongwadae on Thursday. No praised Kim for his unequivocal acceptance of the results of the presidential election, which, he said, pushed the country a step further toward full-fledged democracy. No also wished Kim a fruitful sojourn at Cambridge University in Britain. Kim expressed his hopes that No close out his administration by granting amnesty to "prisoners of conscience," sources at Chongwadae said.

Over at the embattled United People's Party, meanwhile, party leaders made their demand after they had decided to reject the prosecution's summons on Chong for questioning in connection with his abuse of a Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. slush fund for his presidential campaign. Chong was to appear in the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office by Thursday. The government slapped the travel ban on Chong after the 78-year-old industrialist tried to sneak out of the country to Japan from Kimhae International Airport in Pusan on Wednesday though the prosecution's summons had been served on him Tuesday evening.

The United People's Party reached the decisions at Thursday's meeting of senior party officials and lawmakers, presided over by Chong himself. It has also decided to seek, jointly with the Democratic Party, to convene an extraordinary session of the National Assembly in January.

Despite the party's demand, the government is not expected to lift the ban because Chong's return and response to the prosecution summons could not be guaranteed, government sources said. Chong had received an invitation from Clinton to attend his inauguration ceremony, but replied early this month that he would be unable to go. Consequently, the party had planned to send Reps. Chong Mong-chun, Kim Pok-tong and Pak Chol-on instead.

Pyon Chong-il, spokesman of the UPP, said the party had not made any decision on whether it would let Chong comply with the prosecution summons if the government would not remove the travel ban.

"If there is going to be a second summons, the party will discuss the problem then," Pyon said, hinting that Chong would not answer the summons unless the government removed the travel ban. Chong reportedly told the meeting, however, that he had been considering complying with the summons after visiting Japan and the United States. "There is no reason why I shouldn't answer the summons," Chong said.

Elsewhere, the government formed a presidential inauguration committee of 29 cabinet ministers and other government officials led by Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong. At the same time, the cabinet decided to draw 544.3 million won from its reserve budget to finance the inauguration of Kim Yong-sam as the nation's 14th president. The amount is 400 million won less than the about 998 million won spent for the similar occasion for the current president five years ago.

Hyundai Allegedly Put Won in Secret Accounts

SK1501014593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0109 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. deposited 66 billion won in secret bank accounts from January to November last year, the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office said Thursday.

Some 50 billion won (excluding 13.4 billion won seized by the police) from this slush fund was given to the United People's Party to finance the party's inauguration and the presidential campaign of its leader, Hyundai Group founder Chong Chu-yong, a prosecution spokesman said.

Examination of slips and ledgers from Hyundai Heavy's Ulsan headquarters showed that about 66 billion won was put in secret accounts, he said, adding that more money might be found as the investigation developed.

The prosecution has arrested Yi Sang-kyu, 40, financial manager of the company, who opened the accounts and gave the money to the UPP on the orders of company president Choe Su-il. Yi has been charged with misfeasance and violation of the political fund law.

Yim Yang-hui, 36, chief of the company's financial affairs division, and Mun Chong-pak, 35, chief of its foreign currency finance division, were booked without physical detention on the same charges. They were not detained because their ranks are comparatively low.

The prosecution has questioned company executive Kim Chong-on, 46, and Son Yong-yol, 42, accounting affairs manager, who are both suspected of involvement in forging slips.

The prosecution has increased the number of staff it has conducting a manhunt for Yi Pyong-kyu, a special aide to Chong, from 30 to 40.

Chong Chu-yong To Go to Prosecutor's Office

SK1501015293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, embattled leader of the United People's Party [UPP], has made a sudden change of plans and decided to appear at the prosecutor's office Friday to answer questions about violations of the presidential election law.

Chong made the decision to go voluntarily to the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office after he consulted with some of UPP lawmakers, including Yu Su-ho and Pak Chol-on, who conferred with the justice minister on Thursday, said Pyon Chong-il, party spokesman.

The UPP's presidential candidate refused to answer the first prosecution summons Thursday, one day after he tried to sneak out of the country to Japan. He has been served with a second summons that required him to appear at the prosecutor's office by Saturday.

Explains Reasons for Decision

SK1501081393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0740 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, succumbing to judicial pressure and public criticism, appeared in the Prosecutor's Office Friday to answer questions in connection with charges of election law violations and suspected abuses of corporate slush funds for his presidential campaign.

"As the leader of a legitimate political party, I have to show the people we will have to comply with the law, however bad and unfair it may be," Chong said before he went to the Prosecutor's Office Friday morning.

Chong and his United People's Party [UPP] refused to answer an initial prosecution summons Tuesday, describing it as a government effort to "suppress opposition parties."

If the prosecution wanted to question Chong, it would have to come and drag the 78-year-old leader away, the UPP had said.

The UPP, along with the main opposition Democratic Party [DP], even demanded the National Assembly convene an extraordinary session to discuss the issue.

But unable to find a political breakthrough and under mounting judicial pressure, Chong made his own decision to accept the due process of law, according to party insiders.

Chong also was concerned with his deteriorating image in the wake of "an unfortunate cycle of verbal slips and missteps he has been making in recent weeks," they said.

In addition, Chong apparently did not want law enforcement officials to come to him for forceful detention, they said.

Commenting on the latest development involving its fellow opposition party, the Democratic Party said, "it is a matter of course for Chong to respond to a prosecution summons in a society governed by law."

Pak Chi-won, the DP spokesman, however, urged the prosecution to pursue a balanced policy and undertake an investigation into election law violations by Kim Yong-sam and his Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] campaign workers.

The DLP said it was only natural for Chong to appear in the Prosecutor's Office "although he was one day late." Pak Hui-tae, its spokesman, was referring to the prosecution's first summons.

On Friday, Chong was being questioned by two prosecutors—one on four different charges of presidential election law violations and another on abuse of corporate funds of Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. for campaign funds.

In view of the nature of the charges, government sources said, there was a strong possibility that Chong will be indicted without physical detention. In that event, the United People's Party will face a crisis that could affect its survival.

Although Chong's appearance in the Prosecutor's Office took the form of a voluntary action, he sent several party lawmakers earlier to Justice Minister Yi Chung-u to sound him out on the possibility of lifting an overseas travel ban imposed after he tried to slip out of the country Wednesday to Japan.

It was not known what the Justice Minister promised, but some UPP sources said Chong managed to obtain some kind of assurance from Yi that the government would let him leave the country after questioning him.

Chong is understood to be planning a trip to the United States immediately following the prosecution questioning to attend Bill Clinton's presidential inauguration ceremony in Washington on Jan. 20.

In fact, the UPP has reserved a seat on a Korean Air flight to the United States on Saturday. But neither UPP officials nor close aides would say how long he plans to stay in America, though the length of his trip will have a serious bearing on the fate of the United People's Party.

Incurs Forehead Cut From Camera

SK1501091193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0830 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, head of the minority United People's Party [UPP], got a two-centimeter gash in his forehead Friday when he was hit by a camera in a crush of photographers.

Chong headed for Prosecutor Kim Su-min's office after stopping for photographers in front of the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office in Sochotong, southern Seoul, but local newshounds chased after him.

In the confusion, and in the absence of bodyguards, Chong was cut on the brow by a camera. He wiped the blood away with a handkerchief.

UPP Spokesman Pyon Chong-il was angry, but directed his ire at the prosecution for letting it happen "on purpose" to damage the dignity of the president of the United People's Party.

The prosecution took watertight security measures when former Justice Minister Kim Ki-chun arrived for questioning about the Pusan meeting scandal and kept photographers away from him, Pyon charged.

He tonguelashed the prosecution, saying that the UPP had asked for tight security several times but the prosecution had ignored the requests.

Supreme Council members Yu Su-ho and Pak Chol-on, and other UPP leaders met in the Prosecutor's Office to discuss the matter.

Pyon said that he made a strong protest to Justice Minister Yi Chung-u, Prosecutor General Ki To-hui and Yi Kun-kae, head of the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office.

A doctor was called in to treat the cut.

Prosecution Interrogates Chong Chu-yong

SK1501074793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0641 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Billionaire industrialist Chong Chu-yong, founder and head of the United People's Party [UPP], turned himself in to the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office on Friday for questioning.

Prosecutor Kim Su-min of the public security department asked the former presidential candidate about four charges of breaking the presidential election law.

Chong was then interrogated by Prosecutor Kim Chong-in of the Special Investigation Department about charges that his Hyundai Group illegally gave money to the UPP.

The majority Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has also sued Chong for saying that the Bank of Korea issued 300 billion won to finance the election campaign of President-elect Kim Yong-sam, that two of Kim's aides had secretly visited North Korea, and that DLP Rep. Choe Hyong-u, a close aide to Kim, had held election management meetings at the Seoul Metropolitan Police Office during the campaign period.

Chong is also suspected of breaking the National Security Law by telling youth meetings in June and November last year that the Communist Party should be legal in South Korea as the Constitution guarantees freedom of assembly.

The prosecution has obtained from arrested Hyundai executive Chang Pyong-su a statement that Chong received 10 billion won from Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. through aide Yi Pyong-kyu, a prosecution source said.

Forged slips from the Hyundai company showed Chong was involved in the creation of a slush fund and funneling money from it to the UPP, he said, adding that Chong can be charged additionally with misfeasance and violation of the political fund law.

The prosecution will indict the 78-year-old politician without physical detention because of his age, contribution to the national economy and presidential bid, the source said.

Source Says Chong Chu-yong Denies Charges

SK1501121493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1131 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Prosecutor's Office questioned Chong Chu-yong, head of the opposition United People's Party, on six-count charges Friday, but Chong denied most of the charges, a prosecution source said.

The source said that Chong was questioned from 10:30 A.M. to 5:05 P.M. by Prosecutor Kim Su-min on five-count charges, followed by questioning by Prosecutor Kim Chong-in in connection with the suspected flow of the illegally raised fund of the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. to Chong's United People's Party.

The source said that though Chong denied most of the charges, the questioning progressed smoothly and the prosecution questioning is expected to be completed around 11 P.M. when he would be allowed to return home.

Chong showed up at the prosecution on his own early Friday morning. After he failed to answer the first prosecution summons, a second summons was served on him Thursday afternoon telling him to report to the prosecution Saturday morning.

On the suspected flow of the Hyundai firm's money to his party, the source said, Chong maintained that he used money from the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. with the knowledge that the money was proceeds from the sale of his shares.

Regarding his suspected allegations made during the campaign period to the effect that two of Kim Yong-sam's aides had secretly been to North Korea and that the Seoul police had an illegal election strategy meeting with one of Kim Yong-sam's private organizations, Chong denied having made such remarks, the source said.

He was also questioned about his remarks on the need of toleration of Communists, which were made during policy debate sessions last June and November.

On these remarks, Chong, the source said, maintained he made the statement in line with a constitutional clause guaranteeing the freedom of thoughts, adding that he had no other ulterior motivation in making such remarks.

With respect to his campaign-period allegation that the Bank of Korea printed 300 billion won for furnishing to Kim Yong-sam's camp for use as an campaign fund, Chong said he made similar remarks but they were "misinterpreted."

The prosecution source said that despite Chong's denial of most of the charges, the prosecution have secured enough evidence against him on some election-violation charges including the suspected use of the Hyundai firm's money.

The prosecution plan to finally decide how to legally handle him early next week, the source said.

Meanwhile, the prosecution were learned planning to allow Chong to leave the country if he asks for the lift of his exit ban after the prosecution questioning was over.

Court Sentences Kim Tae-chung's Secretary

SK1501083393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0743 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Kim Tae-chung's 27-year-old private secretary, Yi Kon-hui, was sentenced to three years in prison plus three years suspension of his civil rights for violating the military secret protection law by the Seoul District Criminal Court Friday.

In December 1991, Yi gave copies of the 1992 defense budget outline, classified as a second grade military secret, to Hwang In-uk, 26, arrested in the South Korean Choson Workers' Party incident last year.

Yi was charged in October.

As a secretary to Kim Tae-chung, then-leader of the Democratic Party, his implication in the spy incident caused trouble for Kim's bid to solicit support from right-wing voters in December's presidential election.

The prosecution had asked for a 10-year term plus a 10-year suspension of civil rights.

Court Orders KAL To Pay Victims' Families

SK1501080893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0724 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Civil Court ruled Friday that the crash of a Korean Air [KAL] jetliner in Tripoli in July 1989 was caused by pilot error and ordered KAL to pay 400 million won (506,000 U.S. dollars) to the families of the victims.

The Hague Protocol limits compensation in air accidents to 100,000 special drawing rights (80 million won), but if the cause was human error by airline employees or the circumstances were predictable the airline must pay all the damages.

"The KAL accident in Tripoli comes under the rules of exception to the protocol," the bench ruled.

The plane crash-landed in fog on July 27, 1989, on approach to Tripoli airport after an air traffic controller had told the pilots to go to another airport.

Seventy-two died and 70-odd were injured in the accident.

The lawsuit against KAL was filed in July 1991.

President-elect Meets EC, ASEAN Envoys

SK1501065293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0532 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam called for economic cooperation between South Korea and the European Community in a meeting with four European ambassadors to Korea on Friday.

The EC had walked the same line as Korea on the issue of inter-Korean relations and Pyongyang's nuclear development, and was not only an important trading partner but also a close companion politically and diplomatically, Kim told the ambassadors.

They were Jan Marcussen, ambassador of Denmark, the current EC chairnation, and the ambassadors of Britain, the last chairnation, Belgium, the next chairnation, and the EC.

With Raymond Wong, ambassador of Singapore, the ASEAN chairnation, Kim spoke warmly of the development in Korea-ASEAN ties and proposed lasting cooperation between Korea and Singapore.

Wong delivered to Kim a congratulatory letter from Philippine President Fidel Ramos on behalf of the Philippine ambassador.

With Paraguayan Ambassador Anibal Casal, dean of the diplomatic corps, Kim exchanged views on subjects of mutual interests.

Kim's busy schedule forced him to meet only some of the foreign diplomats in Seoul, his aides said. He is to take office on Feb. 25.

PRC Delegations Visit Seoul 'One After Another'

SK1401102693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0511 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Chinese Government officials are visiting Seoul one after another for economic cooperation and to attract investment, government and industry sources said Thursday.

Materials Minister Liu Suinian is to visit on Feb.3-14 with an 11-member delegation. The ministry handles the supply and distribution of materials for the government and military. The foreign minister and foreign economic relations and trade minister have both visited Seoul, but it is the first time that a minister in charge of practical economy is to come.

Chemical industry Vice Minister He Guoqiang is to visit Seoul on Feb. 8-17 at the invitation of the trade and Industry Ministry with an eight-member delegation to attend the opening of the China National Chemical Construction Corp.'s Seoul office on Feb. 11. A 10-member delegation from Henan Province led by vice governor Qin Kecai arrived Wednesday and is to return Saturday. A 50-member delegation from Shenyang city, Liaoning Province, held a seminar on investment Tuesday. And a 384-member delegation from Hebei Province is to come in March.

Nation's Trade Deficit With PRC Analyzed

SK1501015393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0130 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—Korea was the only major Asian nation to have a trade deficit with China in the first nine months of 1992, Trade and Industry Ministry officials said Friday.

While Korea had a deficit of 142.07 million U.S. dollars, Japan posted a surplus of 797.38 million dollars, Taiwan of 3,099.12 million dollars, Indonesia of 729.41 million dollars and Malaysia of 91.54 million dollars, the officials said, citing Chinese data.

Korea also lagged far behind Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan in volume of exports to China and in their value.

Korea had exports to China of 1,558.37 million dollars, up 126.8 percent from a year earlier, compared with 8,660.19 million dollars for Japan, up 31.8 percent, 3,558.84 million dollars for Taiwan, up 49.6 percent, and 14,155.24 million dollars for Hong Kong, up 17 percent.

Other big exporters were the United States (6,215.62 million dollars), Germany (2,413.26 million dollars) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (1,911.84 million dollars).

Korea ranked seventh in exports. In total two-way trade, Korea hit 3,258.8 million dollars and ranked sixth.

Hong Kong posted 40,029.24 million dollars in two-way trade, Japan, 16,523.01 million dollars, the United States, 11,804.49 million dollars, Germany, 4,055.07 million dollars, and Taiwan, 4,018.57 million dollars.

Seoul Stresses Economic Cooperation With PRC

SK1501094993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0853 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government will place primary emphasis on economic cooperation in its relations with China this year, Korean Ambassador to Beijing No Chae-won said Friday.

No, in Seoul for consultations, told reporters that the government would call an inter-ministry conference early next week to work out comprehensive measures to inject more substance into economic cooperation with China.

China could be a "basis" for another economic take-off for Koreans, he said, noting that China emerged as the third largest market for Korean exports last year after the United States and Japan.

Korea was expected to see a 200 million-dollar surplus on an estimated 8.5 billion dollars in bilateral trade with China last year and Korean investment was tentatively tallied at 159 million dollars in 259 cases last year, he said.

Korea-China trade and Korean investment in China are expected to grow at similar speed as last year and increase to 13.5 billion dollars and 270 cases, respectively, this year, the ambassador said.

No said the government would seek early conclusion of accords on shipping, aviation, avoidance of double taxation and fisheries with a view to fostering a favorable climate for Korean companies to do business in China.

The two countries will convene a meeting of the joint economic committee no later than March and speed up negotiations on an aviation agreement, No said.

Touching on Chinese President Yang Shangkun's possible visit to Seoul, Ambassador No said, "we look forward to seeing the Chinese leadership visit Seoul within this year but it's not that negotiations are proceeding in earnest."

He said Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu's invitation to Yang during his visit to Beijing was "only a step aiming at reaffirming President No Tae-u's invitation made during his state visit in September," indicating that the Chinese visitor would not necessarily be Yang but a new leader to be named in a leadership reshuffle expected in March.

Noting that ties between China and North Korea were transforming from a donor-recipient relationship to a common state-to-state relationship, No said, "reports about China demanding North Korea settle trade with hard currencies may be true."

Opening of Korean Banks in SRV Approved

SK1501022193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0145 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—The Finance Ministry gave approval to Shinhan Bank on Friday to open an office in Ho Chi Minh city. Shinhan is the the third Korean bank to advance into Vietnam.

South Korean financial institutions have made brisk advancements into Vietnam since the normalization of ties between Seoul and Hanoi on Dec. 22, Ministry officials said.

The Export-Import Bank of Korea set up an office in Ho Chi Minh city in November and Korea First Bank will open a joint venture with the Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam (VINA).

First-VINA bank starts business next month in Ho Chi Minh city with capital of 10 million U.S. dollars, of which 40 percent was supplied by Korea first, 10 percent by Daewoo Securities Co., and 50 percent by VINA.

The ministry will also allow two or three commercial banks to open offices in Vietnam, officials said.

Currently, Vietnam has seven foreign bank offices, two branches and two joint-venture banks.

Burma

Australian Envoy on Convention Postponement

BK1501094393 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 15 Jan 93

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] There is growing speculation that Burma's constitutional talks may have been abruptly adjourned to head off open dissent against the military's insistence that it has the role in the future political leadership.

Burma's military regime called the talks to set up guidelines for a new multiparty constitution which many Western nations cited as condition for resuming ties. But Evan Williams reports from Rangoon that foreign observers say it appears that the talks may have been called off until next month to avoid a confrontation with civilian delegates.

[Begin recording] [Williams] Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council or SLORC says the delegates were sent home until 1 February so they could more fully prepare and consult on key areas. The talks were called to set out the guidelines for a new constitution to be written before the transfer of power to a civilian government.

The regime denied there was any other reason for the convention's abrupt adjournment which caused an audible hum of suprise among the 700 delegates when it was announced just two days after the talks opened. The delegates from Burma's many ethnic groups and political parties were at the talks, but when I went to Aung San Suu Kyi's former National League for Democracy [NLD] Party Headquarters for their reaction, nervous officials told me to go away until I had the regime's permission to speak to them. Nothing is certain in today's secretive Burmese society, but many foreign diplomats say while there may be some truth in the need for more work by the delegates, it appears one of the main reasons for the adjournment was a move by some delegates, possibly as many as 90, to challenge the military's insistence that it be guaranteed a role in the future political leadership.

If the NLD is going to make a move, they say, it has to be done at the convention. Pamphlets circulating before the talks point out that a multiparty democracy cannot have a leading role reserved for the military, and some observers say the regime may have adjourned the talks to avoid a confrontation.

Australia's ambassador, Geoffrey Allen, said the regime's revocation of some restrictions, release of hundreds of political prisoners, and the convention itself have to be seen as an advancement, but it is still unclear they mark the beginning of a lasting and meaningful transfer of power to civilian authority.

[Allen] So it does, I suppose, provide them with an opportunity to go back, consider the various points that have been raised at the convention, and come back in two and a half weeks prepared to discuss more seriously about what they would like to see in the new constitution. It is a step, but we are all, of course, worried about the excessive preoccupation by the military about the Army playing a major role in the future leadership of this country. Yet, a number of the political parties have drawn attention to the fact these are incompatible with a number of other objectives laid out by the military themselves, and it is going to be interesting to see how far the military is prepared to acknowledge that fact and may be to (?move out), what is at the moment, a fairly hardline position.

[Williams] Do you think in fact that the fact it was raised by some of those parties in fact was one of the reasons why the convention was put into recess?

[Allen] I think there is probably an argument to be developed that way. I think the closer the convention came, the more papers seem to be circulating about the incompatability of the military interests in retaining a national leadership role and the other principles of establishing a genuine multiparty democracy or democratic state and the principles of justice, equality and freedom.

I would like to believe that the military is having to look at some of those quite well documented research and argued papers and may be themselves conclude there has got to be more flexibility on their side if their own six principles are to be fully respected in the new constitution. [end recording]

Information Minister Meets Foreign Journalists

BK1301013993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Jan 93

[Text] Brigadier General Myo Thant, leader of the Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and minister of information, met with journalists from foreign news services stationed in Yangon [Rangoon] and journalists from television stations, radio stations, news agencies, and newspapers currently in Yangon to cover the National Convention at 0900 in the conference hall of the Department of Myanmar [Burma] Television and Broadcasting on Prome Road.

Brig. Gen. Aung Thein, deputy leader of the SLORC Information Committee and director of the Defense Ministry's Department of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare and other committee members—Colonel Than Tun, joint adjutant general; Col. Ye Htut, director of the Military History Museum and the Military Archives; Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Win, deputy director of the Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence [DDSI]; Lt. Col. Thein Han, director general of the Office of the Committee for Development of Border Regions and National Races; Lt. Col. Kyaw Thein, staff officer grade-1 from the DDSI—U Kyi Lwin, director general of the Department of Myanmar Television and Broadcasting; U Aye, director of the Department of Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of the Directorate of Trade; U Maung Aung, director general of the Department of Immigration and Manpower; U Win Sein, director general of the Department of Information and Public Relations; and U Sett Maung, advisor to the Office of the SLORC.

Following an introductory speech by Minister Brig. Gen. Myo Thant, the minister and members of the Information Committee replied to questions related to the National Assembly raised by 19 journalists from Radio France International, Germany's ARD Television, NEWSWEEK magazine, Japan's KYODO News Agency, SANKEI SHIMBUN, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, NIHON KEIZAI, MAINICHI SHIMBUN, ASAHI SHIMBUN, NHK Television, AFP, AP, BBC, Thailand Television Station, AUSTRALIA BROADCASTING CORPORATION, and TIME magazine. The meeting ended at 1130.

Newsmen Visit Yinbyu Repatriation Center

BK1401144793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] A delegation led by Mr. Omar Farooq, Commissioner of Chittagong from Bangladesh, and which included three members from the BPP [expansion unknown] news agency; four members from the relief department, home affairs department, and foreign affairs department of the prime minister's office; and 12 newsmen and journalists from REUTER, BBC, VOA, AP news agencies, broadcasting stations, and newspapers visited Yinbyu repatriation center at 1200 on 7 January and inspected repatriation works and interviewed some families.

They were welcomed by U Than Aye, director of the immigration and manpower department; U Tin Maung Lwin, deputy director; and employees of the reception centers. U Maung Maung Swe, staff officer of the reception center, explained the repatriation matters to the newsmen.

The Commissioner of Chittagong and party next went to Kyaukhlegar village, met with elders of the local mosque, and interviewed some of the returnees. They returned to Bangladesh at 1400.

In accordance with the bilateral agreement on the repatriation of those who illegally left Myanmar [Burma] for Bangladesh, three delegations led by respective camp officials of the country on the other side yesterday transferred 2,364 returnees—1,151 males and 1,213 females—from 512 households.

It has been learned that, from 22 September 1992 to 13 January 1993, a total of 14,485 persons—7,094 males and 7,391 females—from 3,199 households, who illegally left the country, have been repatriated so far.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Accuses West of Double Standards

BK1501092293 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0842 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed is not happy with the double standards practised by the developed countries claiming to be upholding humanitarian principles.

He made known his displeasure when asked to comment on the attack by allied forces led by the United States against Iraq Thursday in which 19 people were reportedly killed and 15 others injured.

Dr. Mahathir said: I'm sad that when it comes to Iraq, their action was swift whereas none displayed any humanitarian concern over the atrocities committed against the Bosnian people. And they are the very countries which claim to be championing humanitarian issues.

The prime minister was speaking to reporters after bidding farewell to Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa at the Kuala Lumpur Hilton.

Malaysia had called for a military option under the auspices of the United Nations to put an end to the annihilation of the Bosnians by the Serbs.

Japanese Prime Minister Continues 3-Day Visit

Urges Iraq To Observe Resolutions

BK1501100893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0414 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Japan, one of the major financiers of the Gulf war operations which ousted Iraq from occupied Kuwait in 1991, has described as "understandable" the bombing raids on Iraq by the United States and allied forces.

Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said in a statement issued here Thursday evening that the bombings were intended to secure the implementation of the United Nations resolutions on the Gulf war cease-fire rules.

Iraq had repeatedly violated the U.N. Security Council resolutions despite frequent warnings by maintaining a defiant attitude towards the collective will of the international community, said Miyazawa, who is on a three-day visit to Malaysia.

He said that because of the importance of maintaining a firm attitude and unity by the international community against Iraq, Japan had taken every opportunity to demand Iraq to observe all the U.N. Security council resolutions.

Japan will continue to strongly urge Iraq to observe the resolutions and refrain from words and actions likely to give rise to tension in the region, he said.

More than 100 U.S. allied warplanes Wednesday began blasting Iraqi missile sites in a fast and fiery display of Western anger at President Saddam Husayn.

Reports said U.S., British and French fighter bombers took just 30 minutes to destroy several anti-aircraft missile sites and air defence radars in the southern "no-fly zone" where Saddam had been defying allied orders to remove those missiles.

Asked for Waterway Equipment

BK1401111793 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1017 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 14 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia has asked Japan to provide aid for a mechanism and use of sophisticated equipment to manage passage of merchant ships in the Straits of Malacca.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the mechanism and use of the equipment would help avert accidents in the busy waterway.

Speaking to reporters after the talks between Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, he said Dr. Mahathir sought the aid because the strategic straits was maintained by the littoral states but used largely by merchant ships of developed countries such as Japan.

Abdullah said the danger posed by the passage of large vessels and accidents in the straits which damaged the environment and affected the income of local fishermen was among the various issues raised at the talks between the two leaders.

He said Japan's stand on the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) was not brought up at the meeting.

During the talks, Abdullah said, both countries agreed to step up existing bilateral relations.

In this connection, he said, Malaysia hoped that Japan would provide more places for the training of Malaysians under Malaysia's "look east" policy of emulating work ethics and techniques from Japan. So far, about 3,000 Malaysians have been trained in various fields in Japan.

Abdullah also said that Dr. Mahathir had expressed satisfaction with the Yen credit provided by Japan and hoped that the G-7 member country would continue to provide aid.

Miyazawa, he said, had said that a Japanese delegation would visit Malaysia in two months' time to study the form of aid needed by Malaysia.

Abdullah said Dr. Mahathir had said that the Malaysian Government did not wish to see Malaysian illegal workers in Japan hampering bilateral ties and had stated Malaysia's willingness to take back Malaysian illegal workers and allow the imposition of visa on Malaysians wanting to visit Japan.

However, Miyazawa had said that it was not necessary to impose visa on Malaysians.

On trade, Dr. Mahathir asked the Japanese Government to encourage Japanese to invest in Malaysia.

On international issues such as Cambodia, the South China Sea islands and security of the East Asian region, both leaders shared the positive view on the proposal for Prince Norodom Sihanouk to be made president of Cambodia because they felt he was the only leader who could unite the country.

Both leaders did not wish to see any superpower having hegemonistic intentions in the region, and that the issue of overlapping claims with regard to the South China Sea islands be resolved through negotiations.

In this connection, Abdullah said Dr. Mahathir had said that the presence of US troops in the region should be to serve as a stabilising factor and not with the intention of influencing the countries of East Asia.

Feted by Mahathir at Banquet

BK1401155793 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1500 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir has defended his proposal for establishment of the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. He touched on the topic during the state banquet tonight hosted in honor of his Japanese counterpart, Kiichi Miyazawa. Dr. Mahathir, who avoided discussing the subject during his talks with Mr. Miyazawa earlier today, took the opportunity during his address at the state banquet to clarify the EAEC's objectives.

The prime minister told Mr. Miyazawa that he understood Japan's stand concerning the EAEC, but he wanted to clarify that the EAEC is not a trade bloc, it is only a regional forum. Dr. Mahathir said there is interest in establishing regional organizations such as trade blocs, and ASEAN, which has been established over 25 years, has not become a trade bloc.

Japan is reluctant to state its commitment to EAEC, which was first envisioned in 1990, because of strong oppostion from the United States, its major trading partner.

The prime minister said the ASEAN nations, individually and collectively, have an open attitude toward trade with the rest of the international community. Regional organizations need not become trade blocs to benefit from the regional grouping. He said the EAEC appears to be more of a forum for those countries which cannot project their decisions individually at international levels. If those countries take a joint stand and speak with one voice, then the international community will find it difficult to brush aside their joint stand.

Bade Farewell by Mahathir

OW1501031893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0304 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa left Malaysia Friday for Thailand after a three-day visit to continue his tour of four Southeast Asian countries.

He was seen off at Kuala Lumpur international airport by Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed had earlier called on Miyazawa at his hotel to bid him farewell.

Miyazawa also paid a brief visit to the new Japanese school near the airport on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur before his departure.

Thailand will be the third stop on his tour which has taken him to Indonesia and Malaysia, and later to Brunei.

All four countries are members of the economically dynamic Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), in which Japan is the biggest foreign investor. ASEAN includes Singapore and the Philippines.

It is Miyazawa's first trip to the region since he took office in 1991. He returns home Monday.

Departs For Bangkok 15 Jan

BK1501074493 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has left Kuala Lumpur for Bangkok to continue his tour of four ASEAN countries after a three-day official visit to Malaysia. He was seen off at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

During his visit, Mr. Miyazawa held talks with Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir on bilateral, regional, and international issues.

He is leading a 62-member delegation that includes senior officials and four members of Parliament of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Malaysia was his second stop after Indonesia.

To Deliver 'Major Policy Speech'

OW1501013893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0105 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa leaves for Bangkok on Friday on the third leg of a four-nation Southeast Asian tour.

Miyazawa, who arrived in Kuala Lumpur from Jakarta on Wednesday, will bid farewell to Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed before departing by plane.

On his way to Kuala Lumpur international airport, Miyazawa will briefly visit a new Japanese school under construction.

Upon his arrival in Bangkok, he will have a formal meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai following an official welcome at the Thai leader's office.

Miyazawa will attend a dinner hosted in his honor by Chuan, following an audience with King Phumiphon.

On Saturday, he will deliver a major policy speech outlining Japan's foreign policy and then hold a press conference.

He will fly to Brunei on Sunday before returning home Monday to complete the eight-day visit of the four members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which also includes Singapore and the Philippines.

Mahathir Terms Visit Useful

BK1501084993 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0746 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has described Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's three-day visit to Malaysia as very successful.

I feel the visit was very useful because it gave Malaysia and Japan an opportunity to discuss bilateral problems, he told reporters after bidding farewell to Miyazawa at the Hilton Hotel here.

Dr. Mahathir said Malaysia informed Japan of its requirements, including loans and infrastructural needs.

Miyazawa, who arrived here from Jakarta, left for Thailand Friday to continue with his four-nation tour of ASEAN countries. His last stop will be Brunei.

Thursday, Dr. Mahathir and Miyazawa held talks at the Prime Minister's Department on bilateral cooperation and regional and international issues but did not touch on the proposed East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC).

However, Dr. Mahathir talked about the subject in his speech at a dinner given in honour of Miyazawa Thursday night, saying the grouping could serve as a forum for countries in the region to discuss and take a common stand on problems affecting them.

So far Japan has not expressed its stand on the proposed formation of EAEC, which is being worked on by ASEAN.

Dr. Mahathir said he did not raise the EAEC issue at yesterday's meeting because he did not want to embarrass the country's guest.

Asked if Malaysia was trying to get Japan's backing for the EAEC, Dr. Mahathir said Malaysia wanted the support of all and not just Japan.

EAEC Proposal Not Discussed

OW1501042393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0405 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 15 KYODO—Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed said Friday he cannot raise the subject of his proposed East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to avoid embarrassing him because of Japan's reluctance to join the grouping.

"We did not wish to embarrass our guest," he told reporters aeter bidding farewell to Miyazawa at his hotel.

The EAEC was not discussed in his two-hour meeting Thursday with Miyazawa, who ended a three-day vieit to Malaysia Friday.

Japan has remained noncommittal over its participation in the grouping, proposed by Mahathir in late 1990, because of strong opposition to the EAEC from the United States, which calls it a trading bloc.

Malaysia has regularly raised the EAEC in meetings with Japan, since Japan's participation is seen as vital to the grouping now backed by Southeast Asian countries.

Although the EAEC was not discussed in the meeting, Mahathir said he mentioned the need for the grouping in his dinner speech Thursday night. He asked whether Malaysia still will try to get Japan's support for the EAEC, he said, "we want everybody to support it, not just Japan."

Mahathir suggested in his speech that the EAEC meet with Japan to identify common problems prior to Group of Seven (G-7) summits so that Japan can effectively represent Asian interests in talks among the leading industrialized nations.

Mahathir described Miyazawa's three-day visit as successful because Malaysia had an opportunity to raise its needs to Japan.

"It was useful and successful because we discussed bilateral problems and issues such as Japan's credit loans to help our infrastructural development," he said.

Miyazawa informed Mahathir that Japan will send a mission to Malaysia to determine future aid because Malaysia will soon be ineligible for existing loans because of its high income level.

Miyazawa was in Malaysia on the second leg of his tour to four Southeast Asian countries.

Abdullah Confident of Japanese EAEC Support

BK1501085593 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0756 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 15 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is optimistic that Japan will agree to the setting up of the East Asia Economic Caucus [EAEC] proposed by Malaysia when ASEAN makes a final decision on the matter.

His conviction was based on the fact that Japan was a close partner of the ASEAN nations and understands the maturity and wisdom of the member countries of the regional grouping.

My feeling is that when the EAEC has become an ASEAN plan, that is when ASEAN has made a final decision and determined its plan of action, I think Japan may give its support, he told reporters after bidding farewell to Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa at the Kuala Lumpur international airport, here.

Miyazawa, who made a three-day visit to the country, left for Bangkok on the third leg of his eight-day visit to four ASEAN countries. He has visited Indonesia and will visit Brunei after his Thai visit.

Abdullah said that he believed Japan's existing policy to be close to ASEAN and to involve itself in whatever plans of the regional grouping, would among other things, influence that country to make a decision to agree to the setting up of the EAEC.

Japan is also an ASEAN dialogue partner, he added.

The minister said that as in the past, the visit of the Japanese prime minister was proof that Japan regarded ASEAN as a partner, cooperating with Japan in various matters related to development and efforts in overcoming international issues be it political or economic.

At present, Japan has only given its comments ... There is no decision to reject or to agree ... while ASEAN is still discussing the EAEC, he said.

Figures Expected To Confirm Demand Downturn

BK1401101493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0932 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 14 (AFP)—A slowdown in domestic and export demand would cool Malaysia's robust economic growth over the past five years, analysts said Thursday. They said figures out soon would show the resource-rich country's gross domestic product

(GDP) for 1992 expanded slower than estimates of 8.5 percent by the finance ministry and 8.7 percent by the Central Bank. The sharpest drop in growth was expected to be recorded in the manufacturing sector, the engine of the economy which had been booming at an average of eight percent since 1987, the analysts said.

"The external slump has kissed Malaysia's manufacturing sector at last," said Steven Wong, a senior analyst with Kuala Lumpur-based Zalik Securities, predicting economic growth at eight percent in 1992 and 7.7 percent this year. Wong said the fledgling agriculture, construction and services sectors were also expected to experience a drop in growth.

Other analysts were more bearish about the country's economic prospects with the softening of domestic private demand and weakening of the external sector. Rashid Hussain Securities, a wholly owned subsidary of Rashid Hussain Bhd., which is closely linked to the government, said GDP for 1992 was expected to drop to 7.5 percent and consolidate at around 6.5 percent in 1993.

The research house, whose founder Rashid Hussain is a close ally of Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim, said that growth in 1992's third quarter GDP, was estimated at six percent, when compared to the same quarter in 1991, sharply down from 8.8 percent in the second quarter.

According to the latest Rashid Hussain Securities' newsletter, Malaysia's fourth quarter GDP was expected to remain flat at six to 6.5 percent.

"Should recovery in the U.S. turn out to be stronger than currently expected and the slowdown in Japan and Germany does not stretch out until end-1993, growth could be nearer to seven percent," the newsletter said.

Despite the slower economic growth rates, Malaysia would still be ahead of the average Asian growth rate of about six percent, said Alexander Sequerah, the general manager of the research arm of UMBC Securities.

Rashid Hussain Securities said the growth of Malaysia's manufacturing sector slowed down to nine percent in the third quarter of 1992, from 14 percent in the previous quarter. It said negative growth was recorded in the manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles, parts and accessories.

Finance Minister Anwar Wednesday lifted strict guidelines on the provision of loans for the hire-purchase of new and second-hand motor vehicles as part of efforts to check sluggish sales. Following the imposition of these guidelines in 1991 to contain inflation, sales by virtually all distributors of passenger cars in the country fell.

"As the guidelines have achieved the desired objective of moderating the demand for motor vehicles and reducing consumption, we decided to lift them," Anwar said.

Singapore

Dailies 'Cautious' Toward Miyazawa's Trip

OW1401105593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0748 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Singapore, Jan. 14 KYODO—Singapore dailies took a cautious stance Thursday toward Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's Southeast Asian trip aimed at gauging the region's readiness to give Japan a greater political role in its affairs.

The leading Chinese-language daily LIANHE ZAOBAO voiced suspicion that Japan not only wants to become a political superpower but also harbors ambitions to become a military power.

It said that although Miyazawa is trying to quell Asian fears that Japan might revert to militarism, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's recent suggestion that Japan's postwar peace Constitution be changed to allow Japanese troops to more easily join UN peacekeeping missions overseas has alarmed Japan's neighbors in Asia.

If Japan plans to boost the role of the Self-Defense Forces while aiming for a greater political role, then "no matter what Miyazawa says on this trip and no matter how bright he paints the colors of peace in a keynote speech scheduled later in Bangkok, it will be difficult for him to gain the trust of Asian people."

THE BUSINESS TIMES applauded Miyazawa's effort during the trip to ask Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members about Japan's regional role, saying that "given time and the right approach ASEAN should have no objection to Japan playing such a role."

But it added a greater Japanese regional role should go hand in hand with a continued U.S. military presence in the region and the approval of the region.

"Any moves by Japan to expand its regional influence must only happen with the endorsement of the U.S., and the countries of the region," it said.

Miyazawa is visiting Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Brunei—four of the six ASEAN countries which also include Singapore and the Philippines.

"The troubled part of ASEAN-Japan relations relates to Tokyo's search for a regional role—which has aroused Asian suspicions once again," it said.

Miyazawa's "consensual approach...is a wise way for Japan to build confidence in a region where memories of the brutality of the Japanese imperial forces (during World War II) still linger," the newspaper added.

First Biotechnology Venture With China Launched

BK1401143893 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Singapore and China have set up their first joint venture project in biotechnology. The SinoTech Medical to be incorporated soon in the republic will be equally owned by four companies, two Singaporeans and two other Chinese companies. The joint venture was announced during a briefing by the Economic Development Board [EDB].

SinoTech Medical will develop and market biopharmaceutical products. It will also [word indistinct] market and distribute Chinese medicinal products in Singapore and the region. An office will be set up in China later.

At the briefing, the EDB announced that one of the two local companies involved in Singapore, Bio-Innovations, has invested 10 million dollars [Singapore dollars] so far.

Cambodia

UNTAC Accused of Breaching Paris Accord

BK1401060593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] According to the people in Stung Treng Province, the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] team in the province on 8 January 1993 allowed the 26th puppet regiment to move troops and ammunition from Preah Vihear Province to Stung Treng to prepare for an attack on the resistance forces and to crush various political parties.

This is clearer evidence that UNTAC and the Yuon [Vietnamese] puppets are breaching the Paris 23 October 1991 accord. Moreover, UNTAC has also reportedly given the Yuon a free hand to ship thousands of their citizens to Cambodia each day. These Vietnamese are definitely not ordinary people but party members and cadres who are charged with leading the puppet regime and running its internal affairs. Besides, together with the existing Yuon aggressor forces, they are to hide in the country to gather intelligence and carry out terrorist acts with a view to eliminating various political parties.

The Cambodian nation and people realize that the troop movement did not take place by chance. It is a systematic scheme and strategy concocted by the Yuon aggressors, the puppets, and the alliances inside and outside UNTAC.

To do away with this kind of maneuver and to end the sufferings of the Cambodian people, who have been victims of Yuon aggressors for 13 years, UNTAC should stop being a scarecrow. It should stop colluding with the Yuon aggressors and the puppets in destroying the Cambodian nation and people. Instead, it should correctly and meticulously implement the Paris 23 October 1991 accord by:

1. giving a role to the SNC;
2. cooperating with the four Cambodian parties in controlling and verifying the withdrawal of all kinds of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia; and
3. cooperating with the SNC in running the five ministries.

Japanese Peace Chiefs Summoned to Bangkok

OW1401091293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan. 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has summoned the heads of Japan's contingent of UN peacekeepers in Cambodia for consultations in Bangkok, informed sources said Thursday.

Miyazawa will pay a three-day visit to the Thai capital from Friday.

The chiefs of Japanese ground troops monitoring the compliance of rival Cambodian factions with a ceasefire accord, as well as engineering troop units and police officers, were ordered to temporarily suspend their regular duties as UN peacekeepers to brief Miyazawa on their activities, the sources said.

The upcoming get-together was arranged after Miyazawa canceled a planned visit to Phnom Penh, citing his busy itinerary, the sources said.

Instead, they said Miyazawa is sending his emissary, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Motoji Kondo, to Phnom Penh on Saturday, who in turn will escort the peacekeeping chiefs on the return flight to Bangkok.

Some Japanese members of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) seemed unimpressed with Miyazawa's gesture.

"The premier is only sending his emissary here again on his behalf with the aim of bolstering our morale," one trooper said.

"The premier merely sent his envoy (to a farewell ceremony in Japan) citing his busy political schedule when we left Japan, even though he is chiefly responsible for (Japan's decision) to send us here."

In a related development, Kondo, now in Malaysia with Miyazawa, said that Miyazawa will meet UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi in Bangkok on Saturday.

Leaders Thank SRV Counterparts for Greetings

BK1501080693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Recently, His Excellency [H.R.] Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia [SOC]; H.E. Chea Sim, chairman of the SOC National Assembly; and H.E. Hun Sen, SOC prime minister, sent a thank you message to H.E. Le Duc Anh, chairman of the SRV Council of State; H.E. Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the SRV National Assembly; and H.E. Vo Van Kiet, SRV prime minister. The message noted:

On behalf of the Cambodian People's Party, Council of State, National Assembly, and Council of Ministers of the SOC and the Cambodian people, we would like to express profound thanks for the best wishes you extended us on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the SOC's 7 January national day.

On this occasion, we would like to reassure you that the tranditional ties of Cambodian-Vietnamese friendship, solidarity, and cooperation will further strengthen and develop in the interests of our two peoples as well as the whole of Southeast Asia.

The Cambodian people will never forget the great contribution made by the communist party and people of Vietnam on 7 January 1979 and in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem and various other assistance given us in the past.

May you enjoy good health and greater victories in your noble mission to build and bring prosperity to the Vietnamese motherland.

Indonesia

Japan's Role in Asian-Pacific Region Viewed

BK1401072593 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0724 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 14 (OANA/ANTARA)—The visit of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazama to four ASEAN countries is an indication of Japan's awareness of the importance of the Asia Pacific region and its desire to play a larger role in the region.

This has been made possible, because the United States which so far has acted as an 'umbrella' in the region, has been reducing its role due to domestic pressure, a political and regional observer of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Dr. Ikrar Nusa Bhakti, told ANTARA here on Wednesday.

The expert in international relations went on to say that the US military budget in the Asia Pacific was at present only ten per cent of the budget earmarked for the implementation of its foreign military commitments.

According to Dr. Ikrar N. Bhakti, the visit of the prime minister for Japan is of economic and military importance.

In the economic field, Japan needs partners to develop its trade to anticipate the European single market and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the Asia Pacific region, including ASEAN, becomes its first choice because of the relatively high economic growth of the region.

In the military field, it is in Japan's interest that stability be preserved in the Asia Pacific area for a continued implementation of its trade, he said.

According to the Ikrar N. Bhakti who obtained his doctor's degree from Griffith University, Australia, Japan will however act very cautiously in developing its military capabilities in this area in view of the trauma its military role had caused during World War II.

For the ASEAN countries in particular, special attention should be paid to their position in facing the economic interest of Japan in this region, he said.

Japan and ASEAN had special relations with Japan in the past [sentence as received]. The ASEAN countries, particularly Indonesia, should therefore develop themselves into equal partners for Japan, Ikrar N. Bhakti said.

After Indonesia, Miyazawa has been scheduled to visit Malaysia, Thailand and Brunei.

Discussion of NAM With Miyazawa Viewed

BK1401114193 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 14 Jan 93

[From the "Press Review"]

[Text] SUARA KARYA daily writes in its editorial that Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's visit to Indonesia has given strong support to Indonesia in performing its role as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM].

Reviewing the outcome of the talks between President Suharto and Miyazawa during the latter's three-day visit to Indonesia, this daily says that although Miyazawa has not given a definite guarantee that Japan would give Indonesia an opportunity to convey the aspirations of the NAM member countries to the seven industrialized countries [G-7], Japan's readiness to include Indonesia's request in the G-7 summit agenda is an indication of its positive support.

According to SUARA KARYA, the opportunity to be able to brief the G-7 summit leaders on the matter is very significant to NAM member countries because so far problems impeding the development process in developing countries are closely related to foreign debt burdens and trade with developed countries. The daily says, in view of this, that we hope Prime Minister Miyazawa will really fulfill his promise to Indonesia. Miyazawa's seriousness in attaching importance to international cooperation is seen by Miyazawa's willingness to provide a US$2.4 million grant to Indonesia.

North-South Dialogue, Miyazawa's Tour Viewed

BK1401134493 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0942 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 14 (OANA/ANTARA)—As the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Indonesia will be faced with the movement's varied interests, especially if the plan to have a dialogue with the seven industrialized nations grouped in the G-7 is materialized, an observer said here Thursday.

Dr. Ikrar Nusa Bhakti of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), however, also said that if the dialogue took place, Indonesia would be able to prove its ability to revive North-South dialogue which had come to a stalemate since the 70s.

The G-7 (the US, Canada, France, Britain, Germany, Italy and Japan) is scheduled to hold a summit mid this year in Tokyo.

Japan's Prime Minister Miyazawa has promised President Suharto to discuss the possibility of holding a NAM-G-7 dialog with leaders of the group.

About Miyazawa's ongoing ASEAN tour which takes him to Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Thailand, he said it seemed that the visit served Japanese interests more than ASEAN's.

We must not forget that Japan is experiencing a declining economy while its trade with the US and the EC are beginning to suffer from deficits, he said.

Bhakti said now, the total of inter-ASEAN trade volume was smaller compared to the ASEAN trade with Japan, with the US and the EC.

He urges ASEAN countries to consolidate their international lobby in trade activities and to make the best use of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA).

AFTA Urges Exporters To Make Quality Goods

BK1401103693 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0950 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Yogyakarta, Jan 14 (OANA/ANTARA)—The establishment of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) left Indonesia with no choice but to increase the quality of its export products as well as working efficiency and management said an economist here Thursday.

Heijrahman of the Gajah Mada State University said except one or two being rated as good, the majority of Indonesian export products was not superior in quality compared with those of other ASEAN countries.

The country's products are also lagging behind in terms of competitiveness, he said.

About Indonesian handicrafts, he said they were still far more expensive than those from Thailand, for example. He also spoke about the sectors of tourism which he said was still behind Thailand's despite Indonesia's rich natural beauty.

Heijrahman believed that professionalism was the key to the solution of all the problems.

Concern Expressed Over Situation in Cambodia

BK1501082893 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Indonesia and other ASEAN member countries are worried about the deadlock in the Cambodian peace process. This is especially so due to the escalating military offensives, frequent violations of the cease-fire agreement, and security disturbances inside Cambodia. Besides, the acts of intimidation and politically-motivated murders launched at personnel and those working for political factions there will lead to fresh clashes in Cambodia.

The Foreign Affairs Department's press release says in a statement today that Indonesia and other ASEAN member countries welcome and support Prince Sihanouk's announcement on 9 January that he is ready to run in the presidential election in April. Indonesia is confident that Sihanouk will be able to play a positive role in bringing about national reconciliation among all factions in Cambodia so that a comprehensive political settlement and lasting peace will be achieved.

Democratic Party Board Endorses Suharto

BK1301073193 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] The Indonesian Democratic Party's, PDI, executive board general meeting concluded today after a three-day session. The party's board members unanimously agreed to elect President Suharto as the next president and Armed Forces Commander General Try Sutrisno to be Vice President at the opening of the People's Consultative Assembly session for the 1993-1998 period in March.

Sudirman Hala, Radio Republic of Indonesia reporter covering the event in Bogor, West Java province, said that the general assembly was attended by board members of PDI from all the 27 provinces of Indonesia.

Laos

Thai Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks 13 Jan

BK1401022793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Yesterday in Vientiane, His Excellency [H.E.] Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, arrived leading a Thai delegation to hold talks with our Lao delegation led by H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

[LPDR]. The meeting proceeded under an atmosphere of intimacy, neighborliness, and brotherliness imbued with the spirit of developing and enhancing mutual relations and cooperation with a view to gradually resolving certain remaining problems.

At 1700 and 1900 respectively on the same day, H.E. Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri led the Thai delegation to pay a courtesy call on H.E. Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and minister of economy, planning, and finance, and to attend a dinner banquet at the La Xang hotel hosted in honor of the Thai delegation by H.E. Phoun Sipaseut.

H.E. Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri is heading a Thai delegation that arrived in Vientiane at 1120 yesterday to pay a two-day official friendship visit to the LPDR at the invitation of H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR.

Also during their visit to the LPDR, the Thai delegation will deliver a quantity of aid materials, including (?four microscopes) valued at 33,000 baht [Thai currency] each, to the Lao side for use in medical work at many hospitals in accordance with the Lao-Thai technical cooperation project. The estimated value of that cooperation project is 21.5 million baht. All aid materials under the project will be delivered to Laos in the next two months.

Nouhak Phoumsavan Receives Minister

BK1501074093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Yesterday afternoon at the Presidential Office, His Excellency [H.E.] Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received the courtesy call of the Thai government delegation headed by H.E. Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri who is paying an official visit to the LPDR at the invitation of H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

During the courtesy call, H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed thanks to the Thai delegation for having brought with it the fraternal friendship and good will to the entire Lao people. The LPDR president stressed the Lao side's desire for the Lao and Thai peoples to live in peace together. He expressed the hope that all problems in the Lao-Thai relations will be smoothly settled and cooperation between the two sides in the economic and other fields will be gradually developed and consolidated.

On his part, H.E. Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri expressed his thanks to the Lao side for according a warm welcome to his delegation during its visit to the LPDR.

Champassak Paddy Harvest Approaches 200,000 Tons

BK1401130493 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Vientiane, January 14 (KPL)—The harvest in the southernmost Champassak Province in the last rainy season cropping reached 189,432 metric tons of paddy from the transplanted rice fields of 72,376 hectares—the average of 12.61 tons per hectare. The highland rice farming practiced on 4,534 hectares yielded 8,185 tons with an average of 1.8 tons per hectare.

In the last dry season rice farming, 585 hectares was transplanted with rice seedlings and gave a harvest of 2,085 tons of paddy. The productivity rose to 3.56 tons per hectare. In all, the total output of rice farming in the province last year amounted to 199,802 tons of paddy. The total requirement in rice in the province amounts to 178,000 tons, thus leaving 21,663 tons of paddy as surplus. The average ration of paddy per person stands at 394 kilograms.

Japan Funds Medical Instruments Purchase for Hospital

BK1401135793 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Vientiane, January 14 (KPL)—The Japanese Government has agreed upon the funding of over U.S. dollars 40,000 to Setthathilat Hospital, Vientiane Capital, for the acquisition of a set of X-ray instruments with accessories, and for the repair of the X-ray room.

An agreement on the matter was signed here yesterday morning at the hospital between Dr. Bouaphan Phanthavadi, director of the hospital, and Mr. Shigemi Ando, Japanese ambassador to Laos. The ceremony was withnessed by Dr. Siho Bannavong, deputy mayor of Vientiane Prefecture, and dr. Sai Boulommavong, head of the Public Health Service of the prefecture, representatives of the Foreign Ministry, Japanese volunteers working at the hospital, and officials concerned of the hospital.

The aid is in the framework of the small-scale aid project provided by the Japanese Government to Laos.

The aid is expected to arrive in Laos and to be installed in the beginning of March.

Philippines

Government Prepares for Possible Gulf Conflict

HK1501003693 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Top Philippine officials met today in Malacanang to discuss the possible evacuation of Filipino workers who may be trapped in case war erupts in the Gulf once again. Press Secretary Rod Reyes said that families of these workers have nothing to worry about at present.

because the Gulf situation has not yet deteriorated. He said the government is preparing the necessary measures for the Filipino workers. He added that President Ramos has expressed concern over the possible disruption of oil supply in the country in case war breaks out between the allied forces and Iraq.

[Begin Reyes recording in English] We're on top of the situation. Of course, the first concern here is the disruption of the oil supply again, so we can just mention that the government is preparing for any contingency. [end recording]

In another development, Energy Regulatory Board Chairman Rex Tantiongco said the crisis in Iraq will barely affect oil prices in the world market. Tantiongco said the oil prices have hardly been affected by the exchange of threats between Iraq and the United States, Britain and France. Nevertheless, he said that, if crisis does get worse, the country has enough oil to last 60 days.

[Begin Tantiongco recording] The reaction will not be as abrupt as in the first conflict between Iraq and Kuwait, especially because the Iraqi ambassador has stated that his country would now heed all the United Nations' conditions. [end recording]

'Cautious' Support Seen for Attack on Iraq

HK1501022493 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 15 Jan 93 p 12

[Text] Malacanang yesterday assured the public that government's contingency measures are in place in the event the conflict in the Middle East escalates.

At the same time, however, President Ramos said there is no cause for alarm despite the reported planned assault of the United States on Iraq.

"At the moment, there is no cause for alarm," presidential spokesperson Annabelle Abaya said.

"The advice that we got is that the situation will not escalate," Ms Abaya said.

She said the president has instructed the Department of Labor and Employment to make sure that proper contingency measures are prepared.

The presidential spokesperson said government will just have to reactivate the contingency plan put in place by government in 1990.

"We have to make sure that there is enough food supply and that the evacuation procedure is in place," she said. "The Filipinos will be repatriated if the situation calls for it."

As it stands, the Philippines is exhibiting cautious support for U.S. air strikes against Iraq.

Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo told reporters he was roused at 12:30 a.m. (Manila time) [1630 GMT] by envoy to Rome Sergio Barrera, who advised him of the bombing raids carried out to punish Iraq for violating several United Nations resolutions. Minutes after, it was envoy to Washington Pablo Suarez's turn. He explained the U.S. position. By mid-morning, a telex was received by the foreign secretary's office from envoy to Baghdad Rafael Seguis advising Mr Romulo that "no Filipinos were in the target areas." That was the last report sent out of Baghdad. The DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] believes power was cut off in the Iraqi capital.

Mr Seguis, who was recently confirmed, flew to Baghdad only last Saturday because he anticipated the situation would deteriorate, DFA sources said.

"We support all UN Security Council Resolutions, the last of which was issued on January 11," Mr Romulo said.

However, the foreign secretary said "we want to establish and understand more fully the reasons for the US action particularly in light of the fact that the Iraqi Government was given until January 15 to remove those missiles. We need to get further clarification to determine whether the US action was indeed commensurate to the breach of the UN resolutions."

Diplomatic sources indicate the Arab world's response to the U.S. move is divided equally between those in favor and those who feel the "U.S. jumped the gun."

Mr Romulo expressed concern. "The situation is fraught with danger and must not be allowed to escalate. Our fervent hope is that any action taken against Iraq is strictly proportional to the violations committed and will avoid the loss of innocent lives," he said.

Philippine missions throughout the Middle East have had a contingency plan in place since September 1992 in expectation of renewed hostilities breaking out, Mr Romulo said. "Saddam Husayn remained in power and the UN imposed those no-fly zones. It seemed only a matter of time before fighting would break out again," a senior DFA official observed.

Officials Allay Fears Over Workers in Iraq

HK1501033393 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Jan 93 pp 1, 8

[Report by Carlito Pablo, Butch Franco, and Ellen Tordesillas]

[Excerpts] President Ramos and other government officials yesterday allayed fears over the safety of Filipino workers in Iraq and neighboring Kuwait following Wednesday's bomb raid on Iraqi missile sites by U.S.-led allied forces. [passage omitted]

Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo, citing reports from the Philippine Embassy in Baghdad, said there are less than 1,000 Filipino nationals in Iraq, most of them engineers and construction workers. [passage omitted]

Romulo said in the event of an evacuation, Filipino workers in Iraq and Kuwait will be transported to Jordan, and from there airlifted to Manila.

The Swiss humanitarian group International Organization for Migration, which was tapped for assistance during the Gulf War, will again be asked to help in the repatriation.

Asked for comment on the bombings, Romulo said, "We are supportive of UN (United Nations) resolutions."

The Iraqi Embassy in Manila lashed at the U.S. "this is aggression," said Salah Eldeen Sulaiman, second secretary of the embassy.

Presidential spokesperson Annabelle Abaya said Ramos was briefed yesterday by labor and foreign affairs officials on the situation in Iraq. [passage omitted]

Editorial Criticizes Operation Against Iraq

HK1501022293 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Jan 93 p 4

[Editorial: "That Was a Bang?"]

[Text] If President Bush had intended to close his presidency with a bang with the bombing of anti-aircraft missile sites in Southern Iraq, he only succeeded in underlining the obvious. He's leaving the White House next week while Saddam Husayn continues to rule Iraq.

U.S. officials tried to make much of the bombing, the first military allied attack since the end of the Gulf war in February 1991. Eighty strike planes, supported by 30 others, roared in the middle of the night toward four alleged missile sites. The attack, participated in by French and British warplanes, was supposed to have succeeded handsomely in crippling Saddam's capability for action in the southern "no-fly zone" declared by the U.S. Britain and France.

In Washington, Bush said the attack demonstrated he was serious in demanding that Saddam comply with United Nations resolutions that set terms for the end of the Gulf war. "You've got to do what you have to do," the outgoing president said.

Bush is talking nonsense. The "no-fly zone" below the 32nd parallel was imposed by the U.S., Britain and France without UN sanction. There are likewise no provisions in the package of UN resolutions ending the war that bar Iraq from deploying the clearly defensive anti-aircraft missiles.

The "no-fly zone" was declared to prevent Saddam from crushing the Shiites whom the U.S. goaded into rising against the Baghdad government after the Gulf war. The Shiites were gullible enough to believe that with U.S. support they can free themselves from Saddam.

The U.S. declared another "no-fly zone" above the 36th parallel in Northern Iraq to protect the Kurds, who foolishly thought they could seize the Gulf war as an opportunity to set up their centuries-old dream of an independent homeland. Alas for such people who took to heart U.S. promises of supporting self-determination. Realpolitik ties U.S. hands. It could not afford to antagonize Turkey and Syria, both members of the coalition against Iraq, by entertaining the idea of a Kurdistan straddling the three countries' boundaries and extending westward to Iran.

The U.S.-led alliance's design to carve up Iraq has been foiled by that wily fox in Baghdad. The U.S. is now reduced to staging flashy fireworks of no military significance.

Bush won the Gulf war, but he is leaving office stalemated by Saddam. He should leave things well enough alone. On the 20th, the Iraqi problem will fall in the lap of Bill Clinton. The incoming U.S. president may have ideas of his own on how to extricate the U.S. from the quicksand that is Iraq.

A show of (insignifant) force makes Bush look pathetic.

Moro Front Attacks North Cotabato Village

HK1501023793 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] A Moro Islamic Liberation Front [MILF] lost command has attacked a sitio [small village] in North Cotabato, sparking fears that Muslim rebels will launch an offensive to disrupt the scheduled Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao [ARMM] elections.

In a report received by General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief, about 90 MILF rebels attacked Sitio Campo, Barangay Malabat, Carmen, North Cotabato. A vigilante identified as Jessie Paran was killed when he challenged the rebels. The lost command was lead by Commanders Magli, Pakil, and Bebot. The rebels allegedly looted homes and took with them the resident's livestock as they retreated.

Members of the Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Unit, under the 35th Infantry Battalion, immediately responded to reports of the attack, cutting off the Muslim rebels' retreat at Barangay Malapag Centro. No casualties were reported during the encounter.

Earlier, DZRH News learned, through a classified document, of a plan by Muslim rebels to launch attacks on Christian-populated areas of Mindanao to force the military to deploy most of its forces in these areas, far away from the ARMM.

Sulu Sultan Ready To Go to War To Enforce Sabah Claim

HK1501094093 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Sultan (Janalul Kiram), 33d sultan of Sulu, said he is prepared to go war with Malaysia to uphold his claim on Sabah. Sultan (Kiram) said his people's claim to Sabah is supported by history and several official documents. The sultan, however, assured that his people will first exhaust all diplomatic means to reclaim Sabah, which includes bringing their case to the attention of the Organization of Islamic Countries, to which Malaysia is also a member. The sultan also demanded that Malaysia pay $10 million, along with a five percent royalty on all earnings made from utilizing the natural resources of the area as compensation for its illegal occupation of Sabah.

Meanwhile, here is Henry Umaga-Diaz with a report from Malacanang on this issue.

[Begin recording] [Diaz] Sultan (Kiram) criticized President Ramos for failing to consult him on the issue of Sabah in light of the latter's scheduled trip to Malaysia on 27 January. He said the president will be making a big mistake if he makes any promise or enters into any agreement with Malaysia on the Sabah issue.

Meanwhile, (Verdausi) Abas, Sultan (Kiram's) general counsel, stressed that the Philippine Government has no authority on the Sabah issue. It will be recalled that the government recently announced that the president cannot avoid discussing the Sabah issue during his meeting with Malaysian officials.

[Abas, in English] It's really very funny for President Ramos to be going to attend the summit and discuss this issue without any authorization from the Sultanate of Sulu, because without that authorization he has no legal basis. It is indeed very funny because they will be having a summit discussing subject matter when the principal actors are absent. The principal actors are the kings of the Sultanate of Sulu and Borneo, represented by the Sultan of Sulu, Sultan (Janalul Kiram), and the minister of the Strait of Sabah. Even if the [word indistinct] of Mahatir decides to give Sabah to the Philippines, the state of Sabah [word indistinct] Government of Malaysia has no authority, because under the political structure of a federal government, territorial reign is the exclusive jurisdiction of that particular state. [end recording]

Military Official Terms Communist Stance a Mistake

HK1401030293 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Jose Maria Sison and other Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front [CPP-NPA- NDF] leaders abroad are mistaken in their reading of the Philippine political conditions, and this could become an obstacle to the peace process according to a top official of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP].

Brigadier General Romeo Padiernos, chief of the AFP Civil Relations Service, said the continued rejection by Sison and other rebel leaders in Europe of the government's peace proposals indicate that their reading of Philippine political conditions are wrong.

Padiernos said the communist rebels may repeat their big mistake of not participating in the 1986 People Power Revolt which ousted the Marcos dictatorship and started the new political setup in the country.

As a result, the CPP-NPA is being left behind by the wide-scale changes going on in the country, and it continues to lose supporters, especially with its leaders' decision to continue the armed struggle.

Padiernos said the peace process could have been the vehicle for CPP-NPA to enter the country's political mainstream. But the continued hardening of the rebel leaders' stance amid the government's peace initiative and the public clamor for it to end conflict in the country increases the chances of Sison and his group committing the mistake they made in 1986.

Government To Establish Copyright Protection Commission

HK1301152093 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 Jan 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] A commission to enforce intellectual property rights will be established in the Philippines. Attorney Rico Domingo, president of the Council for Combatting Counterfeiting and Piracy of Patents, Copyrights, and Trademarks, or (Compact), said his group has already submitted a proposal for the establishment of the commission to the Department of Trade and Industry. The commission will enforce laws on property rights by coordinating with various government agencies, such as the National Telecommunications Commission, the Videogram Regulatory Board, the Bureau of Customs, the National Library, and the Philippine National Police. The commission will have an initial funding of 12 million Philippine pesos.

Trade Secretary Warns of Huge Export Losses From NAFTA

HK0801112293 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 8 Jan 93 pp 1, 5

[Report by Genevieve I. Soledad]

[Text] The country stands to immediately lose some $2 billion worth of export revenues with the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), according to a study undertaken by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The study said the NAFTA will immediately siphon revenues from the following sectors:
—garments and textiles—$1 billion;
—integrated circuits and parts—$529 million;
—food—$337 million;
—transport equipment and parts—$18 million;
—insulated wires and cables—$113 million; and
—semiconductor devices—$10.4 million.

These figures, however, do not include the country's sugar exports which, observers said, would be heavily hit by the NAFTA.

The NAFTA takes effect in 1994. It provides for a free trade area between Canada, Mexico and the United States.

Local industries fear that the arrangement between the three countries will lead to the displacement of exports coming from non- NAFTA countries.

Trade and Industry Secretary Rizalino Navarro homed in on three industries—textile, sugar and automotive parts—as the sectors most likely to be hit hard by the NAFTA.

Mr. Navarro said these three local exports are the most protected products in the American market and are thus covered by special rules of origin requirements. These rules encourage manufacturers to come out with products using materials produced from the three NAFTA countries.

Local textile exports stand to be affected by this special requirement since the NAFTA clause on textile and apparel imports does away with the quotas on goods which are made from NAFTA- produced yarn or fiber.

Tariffs on these items will be scrapped within a 10-year period. Other goods which do not meet this local content requirement will have their quotas scrapped over a period of time.

As for sugar, Mr. Navarro said Mexico could triple its current quota of 7,200 metric tons (MT) to 25,000 MT at the start of the NAFTA.

During the 7th year of the trade pact, Mexico's quota will be increased to 150,000 MT and, thereafter, in increments of 10

At the end of 15 years, Mexican sugar exports will have unlimited entry into the American market.

As regards automotive parts, Mr. Navarro said the very high local content requirement of 60 percent stipulated by the U.S. could serve as a barrier to Philippine exports of ignition wiring harnesses.

Japanese Grant To Rehabilitate Cebu, Misamis Public Markets

HK0801105093 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 8 Jan 93 p 4

[Excerpt] Japan has extended P320 million [Philippine pesos] to finance the rehabilitation of public markets in Cebu and Misamis Occidental which were damaged by typhoon Ruping in November 1990.

Japanese Ambassador Hirokazu Arai and Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo signed yesterday the notes regarding a grant. The project amounts to Y1.6 billion [yen] (approximately P320 million).

This project involves the rehabilitation of public markets in the towns of Danao in Cebu, and Oroquieta and Sapang Dalaga in Misamis Occidental.

Public markets in rural areas are centers of regional economy and the only places for local communities to purchase daily commodities.

Since typhoon Ruping damaged pubic markets, unrepaired and unsanitary market facilities have adversely affected people in the regions in terms of their livelihood generation and health.

The new and clean facilities are required to boost regional economy and make people's life healthier through hygienic food supply.

This signing of notes brings the total amount of grant aid extended by the Japanese government to the Philippines this year to Y10.898 billion or P2.2 billion. [passage omitted]

Thailand

Premier Comments on Allied Bombing of Iraq

BK1401145793 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said he was following the developments closely concerning the raids on Iraq by the allied forces. He said he had learned about it from the Foreign Ministry report. He believed it was best to avoid war.

[Begin Chuan recording, in progress] ... I asked for information from the Foreign Ministry this morning. The ministry is closely monitoring the situation—whether Iraq really did violate the sovereignty of others. If that was the case, the other side is entitled to take action. Anyway, we uphold the principle of peaceful settlement as the best solution. We do not want an outbreak of war. [end recording]

Interior Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut meanwhile said he did not think the fighting would be prolonged, and he believed there should be no impact on the Thai workers.

Ministry Spokesman Comments on Iraqi Raid

BK1501030993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 93 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Interior Ministry will evacuate Thai workers in Iraq and Kuwait if necessary following the launch of air strikes against Iraq on Wednesday by the US and allied forces.

Deputy Minister Suthat Ngoenmuen said yesterday the ministry would work together with the Foreign Ministry and Air Force to arrange for aircraft to return the workers if there were not enough seats on commercial flight.

The ministry will also seek Cabinet approval for the cost of the evacuation, which will later be paid for by job placement agencies who sent the workers overseas, he said.

The workers' contracts stipulate that the job agencies must take responsibility for travel expenses back to Thailand in times of crisis.

Skilled Labour Development Department deputy director-general Sinchai Riantrakun quoted the Thai Labour Consultative Office in Bangkok as saying the air attacks on Iraq had not endangered Thais in that country or in Kuwait.

There are about 5,000 Thai workers in Kuwait and five in Iraq, according to Mr Sinchai. Of the five in Iraq, two work as maids for Iraqi president Saddam Husayn.

Mr Sinchai said he had assigned the labour office in Kuwait to report on any developments every three hours.

National police chief Sawat Amonwiwat said he had ordered Special Branch and Metropolitan police to beef up security at the embassies of countries involved in the conflict.

Metropolitan Police Bureau deputy commissioner Pol Maj Gen Chaiyasit Kanchanakit said 150 men from his unit would be deployed in eight-hour shifts to guard the U.S., Israeli, British and French embassies.

He said an administration centre responsible for providing security would be set up at the Police Department and a forward headquarters at Lumpini Police Station near the U.S. Embassy.

Government Spokesman Aphisit Wetchachiwa said the Thai Government backed the allies in their defence of Kuwait's integrity and sovereignty and felt Iraq should abide by the UN resolution. It also wants to see a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said Thailand did not want to see violent action and the use of force to resolve the conflict but it held that Kuwait was an independent state snd Iraq had violated the UN resolution.

Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan said the attack would have worldwide economic repercussions causing stock markets to dip.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said the Government was following the situation and its effect on oil prices and had asked the Foreign Ministry for all information. He said a resolution of the conflict without war was the best way out.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi ambassador to Bangkok yesterday asked Thailand not to side with the United States in the Gulf dispute.

Ambassador Munir Shibab Ahmad said Thailand and Iraq should continue to maintain good relations and should refrain from putting these ties at risk.

He also cited the fact that Iraq has been a regular buyer of Thai rice.

Regarding Kuwait, he said it is historically a part of Iraq.

NATION Views 'Display of Western Anger'

BK1501031593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 93 p A6

[Editorial: "Blind hatred for Saddam will lead us to nowhere"]

[Text] Late Wednesday night saw the greatest paradox in the history of disarmament. As nations of the world prepared to sign a treaty in Paris to destroy stockpiles of chemical weapons and the factories that produce them within 10 years of ratification, more than 100 US and allied planes bombed suspected Iraqi missile sites in a fast, fiery display of Western anger at President Saddam Husayn.

The United States, Britain and France warned Baghdad that Wednesday's raids could be repeated and US President-elect Bill Clinton said he would not rule out a new ground war with Iraq.

Saddam incurred the wrath of the US and its allies when Iraqis swooped to retrieve weapons and equipment from Camp Khor, a former Iraqi navy base now in Kuwait under a redrawn border after the 1991 Gulf War. On Wednesday, the base was raided for the fourth consecutive day and civilian equipment carted off, right under the noses of UN peacekeepers.

Also, Saddam has prevented UN inspectors from freely visiting suspected arms sites by barring all United Nations' flights into the country. Why the UN peacekeepers looked the other way while the Iraqis were helping themselves to the contents of the warehouse in Camp Khor is a good question.

Unlike the 1991 US-led Operation Desert Storm the legalities surrounding the allied bombing of Iraq on Wednesday have to be questioned. When Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, it was a clear violation of the United Nations Charter. There was a general consensus on this all over the world. Because of this violation, the UN Charter allowed the 15-nation Security Council to take action against Iraq by using air, sea and land forces to restore international peace and security.

On the other hand, the no-fly zone created last summer to prevent the Iraqi air force from attacking Shiite Muslim rebels below the 32nd Parallel was never endorsed at all by the UN Security Council. In justifying the no-fly zone, the US cited Security Council resolution 688, which was passed after Operation Desert Storm and states that Saddam had to stop repressing the people of Iraq, with reference to the Kurds and Shiites in the country.

The United Nations itself was reluctant to seek approval of the no-fly zone from the Security Council because the international body knew that China—as a permanent member—had the power to veto any resolution. China is worried that authorization of the use of military force against Saddam to protect the Shiites could set a precedent applicable to the human rights abuses inflicted on its own Muslim minorities.

After Wednesday's bombings, Iraq has accepted UN demands that it keep out of Kuwait and allow UN flights into the country for weapons inspectors. Saddam however is still stubborn and objects to the establishment of allied no-fly zones in the southern and northern part of his country because he knows that it is illegal in international law.

We under no circumstances condone what Saddam has done in using the air force to pound Shiite bases in the south of Iraq. On the other hand, we have this question: if the US was really concerned about the Shiites, why didn't Washington support them after Operation Desert Storm, when there was a Shiite-led rebellion against Saddam? Certainly, the Shiites would have done the US and its allies a great favour if they had put Saddam away.

While the Western-led media would like the world to perceive Saddam as a monster, the role of the US in the Middle East has to be put in proper perspective. Under no circumstances would the US allow a Shiite-led rebellion to overthrow the Sunni-Muslim led Ba'th Party of which Saddam is the leader. Security and the status quo of oil politics in the Arabian peninsula would be seriously jeopardized if the Shiites in Iraq were to link up with their Muslim brethren in Iran under the ayatollahs.

The real human tragedy in the Middle East today, to which the US has turned a blind eye, is the recent expulsion of 415 Palestinians suspected of being Islamic fundamentalists by Israel. These Palestinians are now languishing in a no-man's land between Lebanon and Israel without any food, warm clothing or shelter in the freezing winter, with the International Committee of the Red Cross refused full access to them.

The US is unlikely to support any international sanctions initiated by the Arab community against Israel, while the UN Security Council has yet to put any teeth into demands for Israel to bring the Palestinians home.

In an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES yesterday, Clinton said he was willing to make a fresh start with Saddam, and that indeed is encouraging. Let's hope Clinton does not have the same personal hatred for Saddam that has blinkered Bush's vision.

Japan's Miyazawa Arrives in Bangkok

OW1501050493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0435 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 15 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa flew into Bangkok from Kuala Lumpur on Friday on the third leg of a four-nation Southeast Asian tour.

He will have a formal meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai following an official welcome at the Thai leader's office.

Miyazawa will attend a dinner hosted in his honor by Chuan following an audience with King Phumiphon.

On Saturday, he will deliver a major policy speech outlining Japan's foreign policy and then hold a press conference.

He earlier visited Indonesia, which is a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) along with Malaysia and Thailand.

He will fly to Brunei, another ASEAN member, Sunday before returning home Monday to complete the eight-day swing. The other members of the six-nation ASEAN are Singapore and the Philippines.

Greeted by Chinnawut Sunthonsima

BK1501055293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] At 1130 today, Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and his delegation arrived at the airport of the Air Force Headquarter aboard a special aircraft for an official visit to Thailand from 15-17 January as guests of the Thai Government. Colonel Chinnawut Sunthonsima, the minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office who has been assigned by the government as honorary minister attached to the Japanese prime minister, and senior Thai officials, welcomed the Japanese prime minister and his delegation at the airport. The Japanese prime minister was then escorted to the Hilton Hotel, his residence during the visit.

At 1430 there will be an official reception ceremony for the Japanese prime minister at the lawn in front of Government House. At 1445 the Japanese prime minister will hold official consultations with his Thai counterpart at Government House. This will be followed by a full-delegation meeting between the two sides. At 1700, the prime minister will accompany the Japanese prime minister for an audience with the king at Chitlada Palace. The prime minister will host a dinner in honor of the Japanese prime minister at Government House at 1930 today.

Deputy Foreign Minister Comments on Visit Expectations

BK1501030593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 93 p A2

[Text] Japanese Premier Kiichi Miyazawa is scheduled to arrive here today and will meet Prime Minister Chuan Likphai for talks expected to centre on the strengthening of cooperation in the reconstruction of the war-torn Indochinese states.

Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said Chuan would also raise a Thai proposal to develop a road link between Thailand, Laos and Vietnam as part of a regional transport network to facilitate economic cooperation. A Thai initiative to salvage the peace process in Cambodia would also be high on the agenda, he said.

"It is imperative for Thailand and Japan to adjust their role in restoring peace and stability in the region," the minister said.

In this respect, Thailand could serve as a conduit for Japan's greater role in the area.

Miyazawa is scheduled to arrive here this afternoon on the third leg of his swing through member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean)—which has already taken him to Indonesia and Malaysia. He is due to go to Brunei on Sunday.

The Japanese leader will meet Chuan at the Government House this afternoon for talks on regional and bilateral issues. Miyazawa will have an audience with HM [His Majesty] the King immediately afterwards.

The Japanese premier will tomorrow give a key policy speech on Japan's vision for Asia and the Pacific at a luncheon organized by the Foreign Correspondent's Club of Thailand. Later in the afternoon he will have talks with the Chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac), Yasushi Akashi, and Untac officials.

Two-way trade between Thailand and Japan last year was estimated at $US 16 billion. Thailand has put forward two discussion papers on proposed adjustments to the Thai-Japanese economic relationships to keep both countries abreast of the changing situation in the region. Proposals include various programmes aimed at forging closer cooperation in the development of trade, investment, services and industry as well as technology and use of human resources.

Japan, however, has avoided any specific commitment other than to agree to extend active cooperation in the areas of development of supporting industries and in the reconstruction of Indochina and general development of Southeast Asia.

Informed sources said Japanese backing would be sought for a Thai initiative to rescue the peace process in Cambodia. Thailand, with Asean backing, is giving strong support to moves for a president election in Cambodia prior to the May general election to give Prince Norodom Sihanouk legitimate power to stabilize the nation, as well as a proposal to adjust the role of Cambodia's Supreme National Council to give it more say in administrative functions rather than just being a symbol of unity and sovereignty.

Surin said Asean members have welcomed Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri's forthcoming peace mission to Beijing on Sunday and Monday for a meeting with Prince Sihanouk. Prasong will today meet Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan to again try to persuade the stubborn faction leader to rejoin the peace process.

Surin said Asean support for the Thai move was vital.

Former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan's decision to talk to Phnom Penh without prior consultation with Asean caused a rift between Thailand and its fellow member nations.

Japanese Envoy Previews Miyazawa Visit, Talks

BK1401015793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Jan 93 p A4

[Text] The United States' presence in the region is "irreplaceable" to guarantee peace and security in the region as Japan increases its political and security role, Japanese Ambassador to Thailand Hiroaki Fujii says. He said that countries in region should do their best to support the continued commitment of the US in the Asia-Pacific region.

"The U.S. presence is essential and irreplaceable," he told THE NATION in an interview ahead of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's visit here this weekend.

While Japan defines its appropriate role in the political and security areas, the envoy said, the country would not forget history's lesson and would not become a military power. Japan's thinking, he said, is that countries in the region should tackle specific issues that affect peace and stability in the areas such as the Korean Peninsula and South China Sea to avoid any possible confrontation. In addition, he said Japan would like to see a broad security dialogue among the countries in the region to increase transparency to promote peace and security in the areas.

The envoy said he was happy that the ASEAN countries have discussed security issues at the Post Ministerial Conference, after the annual Asean foreign ministers meeting. Japan is a dialogue partner of ASEAN.

For Japan, the end of the Cold War and growing dynamism of this region has provided a good opportunity for Japan to develop partnerships in the economic field with the countries there. The region's economic activities will increase further now that the situation in Indochina has improved it the lessening of tensions and conflicts.

During Miyazawa's visit to Thailand, the Japanese prime minister is expected to stress the importance of Thailand, as well as ASEAN countries, together with Japanese assistance in reconstructing Indochina. Miyazawa will meet Prime Minister Chuan Likphai for the first time. The two leaders would exchange views on bilateral relationship and the global situation. The Cambodian situation will also top the agenda when they meet on Friday at Government House. In Thailand, he will deliver a key speech on Japan's policy towards the Asia-Pacific region as well as Southeast Asia.

The envoy said Japan views the situation in Cambodia with concern and expressed hope that the Khmer Rouge will join in the peace process to ensure lasting peace for

Cambodia. The settlement of the Cambodian problem is very important, he said, for peace and security in the whole area.

He also praised Thailand's effort in trying to break the deadlock in the peace process. Thailand and Japan have worked together in persuading the Khmer Rouge to abide by the United Nations-brokered peace plan.

"I hope the situation will not get worse. That's why all countries will have to work hard to make sure that the scheduled election is carried out," Fujii said.

Miyazawa also wants to use the trip to sound out Asean's views on the upcoming meeting of G-7 industrialized nations in July, according to Fujii. However, he declined to elaborate on what particular issues Japan would want to discuss. In the past, Japan had raised the Cambodian problem at the G-7 group meeting when Norobu Takeshita was serving as Japanese prime minister.

Trade Talks With Japan Envisaged During Miyazawa Visit

BK1401124793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 14 Jan 93

[News in Perspective Feature: "Thai-Japanese Economic Ties"]

[Text] The relationship between Thailand and Japan dates back to the 17th century. But bilateral trade ties have recorded significant growth since the first World War. In the past, the pattern of economic relations was virtually a one-way flow of goods and services from Japan to Thailand. Despite a significant increase in bilateral trade, Thailand has suffered a trade deficit with Japan since 1959. The trade deficit increased rapidly from 42.2 billion baht in 1987 to 157.9 billion baht in 1989. Japan is Thailand's most important economic partner. Thailand's trade with Japan accounted for more than 20 percent of its total trade value in 1990, while Japan's trade with Thailand accounted for only 2.5 percent of its total trade value. In the same year, Thailand's export to Japan accounted for 17.4 percent of its total export, compared with import of 30 percent from Japan.

The chronic problem of trade deficit, however, remained with a gap increasingly widening. Top ten Thai export items to Japan include frozen shrimp, gems and jewelry, natural and smoked rubber sheets, frozen chicken, garments, raw sugar, ball bearings, frozen fish, frozen squid, and processed seafood. Thailand's main imports from Japan are motor vehicles, iron and steel products, power generation, textiles, and electronic power machines. The number of Japanese tourists ranks second among the all foreign tourists visiting Thailand. About 200,000 Japanese tourists visit Thailand each year.

Capital investment and development assistance from Japan have contributed significantly to Thailand's economic and social development. Japan becomes Thailand's major foreign aid donor. In 1990, Japanese aid to Thailand amounted to 10 billion baht. The foreign aid, however, generated more imports from Japan resulting in an even greater trade deficit. For this reason, Thailand deems it necessary to adjust economic relations between the two countries to solve the trade deficit problem. It has called on Japan to provide greater access to the Japanese market for Thai goods and services to help bring about a more equitable and more mutually advantageous economic relations.

On investment, Thailand will continue to seek more Japanese investment with an emphasis on technology transfer so that Thailand will benefit more from foreign investment. Japan emerges the biggest foreign investor in Thailand. The Thai and Japanese governments held consultations on the restructuring of economic relations between Thailand and Japan two times—the first in 1985 in Tokyo, and the second in 1988 in Bangkok. Later the subcommittee on the restructuring of economic relations between Thailand and Japan proposed the second white paper as the framework for the restructuring of bilateral economic ties during 1992 to 1996 following the first white paper covering 1985 to 1991.

Trade cooperation between the two countries will be one of the main issues to be raised for discussion when Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa visits Thailand beginning tomorrow.

Deficit on Agenda

BK1401095893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Thailand suffered a trade deficit of U.S. $2.9 billion with Japan during the first half of last year. Deputy Director General of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rawi Hongpraphat said bilateral trade value between Thailand and Japan amounted to U.S. $8.4 billion during January and June 1992. Thailand is expected to hold talks on more equitable economic ties with Japan when Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa visits Thailand beginning tomorrow.

Lieutenant Rawi said Thailand had already proposed two white papers calling for the restructuring of Thai-Japanese economic relations. He said consultations under the framework of the white papers were successful at a certain level. Although Japan was cautious about its commitment in some projects, it had shown willingness in cooperating with Thailand in several projects, such as joint investment and industrial development, environmental management, technological development, reconstruction of Indochina, and Southeast Asian development.

BANGKOK POST Views Japan's Foreign Policy

BK1501024593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 93 p 4

[Article by Phaisan Sicharatchanya entitled: "Japan's New Policy Goal"]

[Text] Perhaps the one really new element in the conduct of Japan's Asia-Pacific policy from now until the next century is a stronger emphasis on issues that are Western countries' favourite: Human rights, freedom and democracy.

But the Japanese leadership will not adopt the Western-style, heavy-handed tactic to prod open the less democratic or outright authoritarian regimes of Southeast Asia. Far from it. Tokyo will employ the typically-conservative approach by engaging in quiet dialogue to bring about reforms.

The need to promote "openness" and respect for "plurality"—the two catchwords Tokyo now uses in reference to freedom and democracy—is expected to be one of the main themes of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's policy address in Bangkok tomorrow.

Western countries that are prone to the habit of trying to superimpose their model of democracy on Southeast Asian countries—or even progressive elements within this region—will be disappointed. Although the Japanese leadership is re-prioritising the importance of freedom and democracy, it is neither prepared nor willing to take overt action that could be viewed as an interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The promotion of Japanese-style openness and plurality is part of a package of recommendations on how Japan should conduct its Asia-Pacific policy in the 21st Century, the gist of which will be espoused by Mr Miyazawa in Bangkok tomorrow. The recommendations were put forth last month by a high-power advisory group he appointed earlier last year.

A summary report by the group, formally known as the Round Table on Japan and the Asia-Pacific Region in the 21st Century, did not offer any specific approach aside from saying that freedom and democracy are goals that should be pursued through various routes.

To help bring about freedom and democracy in the regional countries, the report said, it is necessary for Japan to gain adequate understanding of their plurality, take into account their suffering under harsh colonial rule, and engage in "quiet dialogue."

In vague and somewhat philosophical terms, the report stated that it is indefensible to adopt the attitude that "a nation can curl up comfortably into its own cocoon" and turn its back on the developments in other countries—a suggestion taken to mean that Japan should get more involved in shaping not only the economic but also the political and social conditions of the regional countries so that regional peace and prosperity can be achieved.

However, Mr Miyazawa is expected to be much more forthright and specific when he talks about the two other main themes of Japan's Asia-Pacific policy: The importance of the United States' continuing military presence in this region and a reiteration of Japan's non-militarisation stance.

And there appears to be a heavy dose of self-justification in the rationale behind the conclusion on both themes drawn by Mr Miyazawa's advisers.

The Round Table's report dwelt at length on a list of potentially destabilising factors in the region—ranging from a question mark on how China can softland in a stable political framework in the aftermath of its current economic reforms, to the risk of nuclear proliferation in South Asia and another question mark over hard-to-discern conditions in Russia—before concluding that the importance of continuing US military presence in this region is "recognised anew" in the post-Cold War era.

Mr Miyazawa stated in earlier discussions with the BANGKOK POST that the role currently played by the U.S. military in the maintenance of regional peace and stability is irreplaceable.

Notwithstanding a great deal of opposition among the regional countries against a re-militarised Japan its non-militarisatlon rationale aiso sounds similarly self-justifying.

"Japan is strongly committed to making active contributions to the realisation of peace and prosperity, and this commitment is made firmer and more realistic by its determination not to become a military power that threatens other countries," the Round Table report stated.

Nonetheless, it advocated a greater political role for Japan in regional affairs. "The collapse of the Cold War structure is shifting the conceptual scheme of international relations from the traditional emphasis on military affairs to economic and political aspects thus creating conditions for Japan to play a considerably greater political role," the report stated.

Japan will not take on the role of a new regional policeman, as suggested in controversial remarks made by Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe recently but it seems prepared to assume a larger burden in international peacekeeping operations under United Nations auspices.

While ruling out the option of Japanese military action in foreign territories, the advisory report urged that Japan "must contribute to keeping and restoring world peace in ways befitting its strength and national attributes."

NATION Views Economic Ties With Japan

BK1501033793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jan 93 p A6

["Comment" by Sarasin Wiraphon, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's American and South Pacific Affairs, and former (1984-86) Thai ambassador to Japan]

[Text] When Japanese militarists coined the term "East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" some fifty years ago, the prosperity they had in mind was in all likelihood their own. Today, the pervasiveness of Japanese goods, department stores, and even cultural phenomena like the karaoke, have led some to wonder if the "Sphere" has not already been achieved by economic means.

This is a very real ambivalence in East Asia over the regional role of Japan in the coming decades. Negative attitudes towards Japan tend to stem from historical and geopolitical factors. In Northeast Asia, in particular, where proximity to Japan exacted a heavy toll in the past, resentment towards Japan remains strong. China and Korea remember their wartime suffering at the hands of Japan and view any political move by Tokyo on the international scene with suspicion.

In Southeast Asia, attitudes are more mixed. During World War II, open, protracted guerrilla warfare against the Japanese occupation was conducted in the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore. A generally more positive Japanese role, however, was played in Burma and Indonesia, where the nationalist independence movement leaderships were trained and equipped by the Japanese. In Thailand, common bonds of the monarchy, Buddhism, and independence from Western colonial rule contributed to a positive relationship with the Japanese military during the war.

Though wartime memories continue to colour the perceptions of East Asian nations, more recent developments suggest that acceptance of Japan's role in regional affairs will increase. A new generation born after the war have no personal recollection of the cruelties inflicted on their parents and grandparents. For their part, the Japanese have been developing ever closer economic ties with Southeast Asia. Since 1985, Japanese investment in Southeast Asia has expanded rapidly, eclipsing traditional Western investment, including the United States. Following the end of the Cold War, Japan has been playing a constructive role in resolving the Cambodian issue, notably by holding the Tokyo conference last year and committing non-combatant forces to participate in peacekeeping operations in Cambodia.

But every now and then controversy flares up over some issue such as the revision of history textbooks (to portray Japan's role in the Second World War in a proper perspective), and the lingering dualism in regional perceptions towards Japan resurfaces.

The priorities that Japan needs to address in Southeast Asia are two-fold: to reassure regional states that Japan will not aspire to establish political-military dominance over the region, and to ensure more equitable distribution of benefits in her economic relations.

In the past few days we have been reassured that Japan will "bear in mind the lessons of history and never walk the path of a military power again." Japan, according to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, will continue to rely on the United States to provide its security umbrella.

During the Cold War, such a reaffirmation of an ongoing policy position would be sufficiently reassuring. The end of the Cold War, however, has caused enough changes in the regional security equation to compel a rethink of Japan's role in it.

Following are few areas where Japan's role will be welcome in the months ahead:

Conflict prevention: In the wake of the US military withdrawal from Southeast Asia, some alternative arrangement will eventually have to be found. It is unlikely that another major power can assume the role played by the United States, as possible candidates (such as China and Russia) also have their share of historical baggage. For the time being, then, the most acceptable alternative is multilateral and regional cooperation. For example, Japan may demonstrate her willingness to work with her partners in Southeast Asia by participating in UN-led and Asean-initiated efforts to foster conditions conducive to conflict prevention.

Japan's regional people: Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's suggestion last week that Japan's constitution should be amended to allow more active roles for her peacekeepers abroad raised understandable controversy. Prime Minister Miyazawa's attempt to smooth ruffled feathers may have done the job for the time being. But these conflicting signals have again raised the question of Japan's real intentions towards the region. Japan's partners might feel more confident if a definitive policy towards Southeast Asia where to be enunciated, along with some indication of Japan's perception of her role in the region.

One way of lending greater transparency and predictability to her foreign policy is to engage in regular dialogue with her partners in the region, now only through formal arrangements such as the Asean Ministerial Meetings/Post-Ministerial Conference, but also in informal bilateral consultations. **Regional Development:** Since the mid-1980s, Japanese investment, attracted to Southeast Asia's low wages and industrious work force, has been a significant factor in the region's export boom. While Japanese investment is certainly welcome, greater focus on areas such as human resources development and technology transfer would contribute to an even more solid sense of partnership. Official development assistance on issues of international concern, such as the environment, narcotics suppression, and AIDS, should also reinforce the goodwill and yield results beneficial to the region as a whole.

Apart from Asean, Japan has lately been turning her attention to the embryonic economies of Indochina, an encouraging sign that Japan is further deepening her commitment to economic development in the region. Given Thailand's central location and expertise in regional affairs, a tripartite developmental framework, involving Thailand, Japan and Indochina, would consolidate not only the economic relationship among these partners, but enhance the climate for political cooperation in the region as well.

With such a wide-ranging role for Japan in the region, will Southeast Asia indeed become,a Co-Prosperity Sphere? More to the point, will Southeast Asia become Japan's Co-Prosperity Sphere? From available indications, such will not necessarily be the case. To begin with, while Japan is the major investor in the region, traditional Western investors still maintain a considerable, if relatively declining, presence. Moreover, other non-American countries are also aggressively pursuing investment opportunities in this part of the world. As the Asian NIEs [newly industrialized economies] move up the ladder of industrialization, they are increasingly attracted to Southeast Asia not only as a market but also as a location for offshore production facilities.

The perceptual dualism mentioned earlier also serves as a powerful self-correcting mechanism. There is great sensitivity in the East Asian countries—indeed, in Japan itself—about the acceptable limits of Japanese international political and military activity. The slightest suggestion that Japan might break out of her constitutionally stipulated behavioural mould is enough to ship up a noisy debate in Japan and her Northeast Asian neighbours. While opposition to a heightened role for Japan will be more marked in Northeast Asia, the verdict is still out in Southeast Asia, due to the different wartime experiences of countries in the region.

If Japan, by tradition a closed society, can remedy foreign perceptions, such as by further opening up her market and society to outsiders, their detractors will have much less to be distrustful of. Until Japan clarifies her stance and intentions towards the region to the satisfaction of her partners, some lingering doubt about the desirability of a more active Japanese political role is likely to remain. Building trust will take time but it will be time well spent.

Another point worth mentioning is the dampening effect Japanese political pluralism may have on any expansionist design, should such a design be indeed possible. In the his 1989 book, The Enigma of Japanese Power, Karel van Wolferen observed that, contrary to Western perceptions of a unified "Japan, Inc.," decisionmaking in Japan is more often characterized by fragmentation, frigidity and indecisiveness. The democratic Japan of today, it seems, will be hard put to muster the ambitious purposefulness of Imperial Japan's wartime plans.

In light of these considerations fears of a coerced, Japan-dominated Co-Prosperity Sphere seem unwarranted. Whether Japan dominates or not will be primanly due to market forces and up to each country to determine.

Japan's regional role cannot be denied its expansion. We must channel these energies into constructive cooperation so that the region as a whole may benefit. Now is an ideal opportunity for Japan to prove that she is up to the challenges of international responsibillty. Bearing in mind the lessons of history, Japan can now take further concrete steps to ensure that her partners will never again have cause to question their foreign policy motivations.

Prasong Announces 'Solution' for Cambodia

BK1501015993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 93 pp 1, 3

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri last night announced that Thailand has found a solution to break the Khmer deadlock which he is confident will be accepted by all parties concerned.

Squadron Leader Prasong also announced that he will be going to Beijing on Sunday to talk with Supreme National Council chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Prince Sihanouk has been informed of the Thai proposed solution, Foreign Minister Prasong said.

Foreign Ministry sources said the solution concerned Thailand's support for a French proposal for there to be an election of the SNC president prior to the general elections in Cambodia set for May.

Sources also said that a statement from the ASEAN countries in support of Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong's attempt to bring this about by visiting Prince Sihanouk to secure the plan would also be announced soon.

Asked if the plan that France has long proposed was the solution he was talking about, Sqn Ldr Prasong, who returned last night from an official visit to Laos, said he could not say yet but ministerial spokesman Sakthip Krairoek would announce it this evening.

He said that he was confident his plan would prove successful in breaking the Khmer deadlock.

"My visit to see the Prince is unofficial but I have contacted him and he will meet me. I will also see several Chinese leaders," Sqn Ldr Prasong said.

The Khmer Rouge has practically withdrawn from the peace plan and has indicated that it would not take part in the general elections because they claim there are still Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

Sqn Ldr Prasong is scheduled to meet Khmer Rougb leader Khieu Samphan at 10:00 a.m. today and the Chinese Ambassador to Thailand at 2:00 p.m.

Asked if he has a mandate from the ASEAN partners for his meeting with Prince Sihanouk Sqn Ldr Prasong said that he has contacted all sides and they have agreed to help in the attempt to break the deadlock.

He said everyone has been informed of the plan. He said before he went to Laos he called Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, the co-chairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and contacted Prince Sihanouk as well as all the other ASEAN foreign ministers.

"I believe it can solve the current complaint that the SNC has no real power and that no one can get the Khmers to turn and face each other," Sqn Ldr Prasong said.

He added: "The thing I am about to do will show that we have always been working for a solution and this one will lead to a quicker success."

He said that his confidence was not groundless and he has received "very good signs" for its success. The Foreign Minister said there are further steps to take once his solution is accepted.

Chuan Expects No U.S. Use of Article 301

BK1401064893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 14 jan 93

[Text] Yesterday Prime Minister Chuan Likphai spoke with reporters at Government House about the position of the administration of Bill Clinton, who will assume U.S. presidential power on 21 January, regarding the use of article 301. He said he believed that there are current attempts to reach a meaningful conclusion at the multiple negotiations under GATT [General Agreement on Trade and Tariff]. In this conclusion, every country would be treated in the same way; there is no need for bilateral negotiations between disputing countries. He said analyses of the GSP [General System of Preferences] have been made but it is believed that the United States' main aim is to tackle the domestic economy, impact from its major trading partners, or impact from countries with which it suffers a huge trade deficit, such as China and Japan. Chuan said that Thailand's trade surplus vis a vis the United States is comparatively small.

Army Commander Departs for SRV, Comments

BK1501051893 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 15 Jan 93 p 3

[Text] Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit spoke yesterday with reporters before leading an Army delegation on a visit to Vietnam. He said during the visit there will be discussions aimed at enhancing understanding and strengthening relations between the lower levels of the two countries' military establishment now that the two countries have exchanged military attaches, with emphasis on the role of the military and bilateral relations. He was confident that inter-military relations between the two countries will improve steadily. He said Vietnam wanted peace in the region, and he believed that the chances of a strong dispute will diminish if the respective military establishments have good relations with each other as a result of dialogue. Regarding whether good relations between the military would benefit other areas of relations, Gen. Wimon said in the discussions could solve matters in areas where the military has a role, adding that the military will not meddle in areas which belong to the Foreign Ministry.

Asked about the role of military relations with foreign countries, Gen. Wimon said the military establishment in every country has similar thinking and traditions and it is easier for the soldiers to understand each other due to similar philosophy. If soldiers can talk to each other directly many problems could be solved. He said soldiers will not meddle in the political issues, except if they are security-related. The lessons learned from the problems with Burma, Malaysia, and Laos have shown that the problems can be solved more easily if the respective military establishments can talk with each other.

Foreign Minister, Khieu Samphan View Cambodian Issues

BK1501124593 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Khmer Rouge Leader Khieu Samphan called on Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri at the Foreign Ministry at 1030 today. Prasong told reporters after the meeting that he had discussed with the Khmer Rouge leader cooperation with the plan of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] to set up checkpoints at areas under Khmer Rouge supervision. Regarding this issue, Khieu Samphan said UNTAC still had not accepted his proposals for consideration. The Khmer Rouge said the Supreme National Council still does not have power and Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge are ready to cooperate for the setting up of checkpoints if requirements stipulated in the Paris peace agreement are fulfilled.

Prasong asked Khieu Samphan to help find a solution to break the dealock in Cambodia. He expressed the belief that if the Cambodians or each Khmer faction have understanding and cooperation, all problems will be resolved. On the occasion, Prasong informed the Khmer Rouge leader that he will meet with Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing 17 to 19 January. He also asked Khieu Samphan to think about a solution to the Cambodian problem.

Asked whether they had discussed election of the Cambodian president, Prasong said he had already commented that a presidential election prior to the general elections in Cambodia should be discussed among the

Cambodians. The issue will be discussed among the Khmer factions in Beijing in late January. Asked about the Khmer Rouge's attitude toward the peace process, Prasong said the Khmer Rouge want peace in Cambodia and implementation of the Paris peace agreement.

The foreign minister also said he will meet with Chinese leaders during his trip to China since China and Thailand have maintained good relations. However, the main purpose is to meet with Prince Norodom Sihanouk to consult on the Cambodian issue.

Burmese Fear Sabotage, Halt Cross-Border Trade

BK1501020993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jan 93 p 5

[Text] Mae Sot, Tak—Local Burmese authorities in Myawaddy yesterday ordered the suspension of cross-border trade with this northern district for fear of acts of sabotage by anti-Rangoon elements.

However, people of the two countries can still travel across the border as usual, according to a source that noted that Thai authorities in Mae Sot were informed of the action yesterday morning.

Burma said it had learned that anti-Rangoon elements planned to conduct acts of sabotage in Myawaddy township from Thai soil.

The Burmese authorities also asked their Thai counterparts to help take preventive measures, saying that they would not reopen the the border for cross-border trade until they feel the threat of sabotage has disappeared.

A Burmese source said the Myawaddy authority spotted a group of at least five Burmese fugitive students of the All Burma Students Democratic Front on the Thai side of the border opposite Myawaddy.

Meanwhile, sources said about 500 Burmese troops had been sent to reinforce checkpoints along the border and the road between Myawaddy and Pa-an as a security precaution while the National Convention was held in Rangoon.

A Karen National Union source said the transport of goods was suspended because most of vehicles used for transporting goods in Myawaddy were being used to transport weapons and supplles in preparation for Burmese army attacks on KNU [Karen National Union] positions.

First Refugees Return to Khmer Rouge Controlled Area

BK1401124093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0936 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Site Eight Refugee Camp, Thailand, Jan 14 (AFP)—More than 500 Cambodians have left this dusty border camp to resettle in their homeland, the first to be repatriated to areas controlled by the radical Khmer Rouge.

The first 252 Cambodians left here Wednesday for a 50-square- kilometer (19.3-square-mile) area around Yeah Ath. They spent the night some 30 kilometers (18 miles) to the south at a reception center in Sisophon, the capital of northwestern Banteay Meanchey Province. Another 257 Cambodians followed Thursday. Thai Lieutenant General Sanan Kachonklam, head of the Cambodian Repatriation Center here, said there had been no fighting around Yea Ath and that the area was safe for the returnees. A total of 2,164 Cambodians have registered to settle there.

Other Cambodian refugees are expected to relocate to Ta Kot, a Khmer Rouge-controlled town west of Battambang. Sanan said Site Eight would be closed January 22. It will be the fifth of the seven Cambodian refugee camps inside Thailand to be shuttered since the U.N. repatriation program began in March.

More than 370,000 Cambodians fled to Thailand to escape the decade-long civil war in their homeland, which ended with the signing of the 1991 Paris peace accord by the country's rival factions, including the Marxist Khmer Rouge. By the end of 1992, more than 280,000 refugees had returned home. The United Nations hopes to repatriate the rest before elections scheduled for May.

Vietnam

Acreage Under Food Cultivation to Increase

BK1401065393 Hanoi VNA in English 0638 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—In 1993, Vietnam plans to raise its food acreage to 7,680,000 ha [hectares] and produce 24.5 million tonnes in rice equivalent. This represents an increase of 100,000 ha under food crops and 500,000 tonnes in food output compared with 1992.

The acreage under rice will be around 6.5 million ha with an expected output of nearly 22 million tonnes, an increase of 100,000 ha and 600,000 tonnes respectively compared to 1992.

Most of the increase in rice output is expected to come from the Mekong Delta which is to produce between 600,000 and 800,000 tonnes more than in 1992.

The Red River delta is to increase its total food output by between 150,000 and 250,000 tonnes over 1992, of which 100,000 tonnes are rice.

France Begins Delivery of 1992 Food Aid

BK1301142593 Hanoi VNA in English 1419 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 13—The French Government today delivered its food aid to Vietnam for 1992.

Empowered by the French and Vietnamese governments, French Ambassador Claude Blanchemaison made a token delivery of the aid to Vice Minister of Finance Pham Van Trong.

The aid, comprising 3,650 tonnes of whent flour and 130 tonnes of powdered milk, will be sold and the money will be invested in the rural development projects in nine provinces which have not received the French Government's aid in 1991 and 1992. -

French Experts Lecture on Oil Technology

BK1401071793 Hanoi VNA in English 0648 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—Lectures were given here yesterday jointly at the Vietnam oil and gas corporation (Petrovietnam) and the Oil Institute of France on modern oil processing technologies.

They were part of an effort to help acquaint Vietnamese oil workers with state-of-the-art technologies in the field.

The French experts' lectures included new technological achievements of the oil industry in France and the world.

A representative of the French oil institute took the occasion to express the French wishes for further cooperationn with the Vietnamese oil industry.

Petrovietnam Director General Ho Sy Thoang was present at the lecture.

Australia Grants $11 Million in Health Care Assistance

BK1401064993 Hanoi VNA in English 0636 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—Australia has decided to grant Vietnam aid valued at 16.25 million Australian dollars (11 million U.S. dollars) for the next five years assist its health care projects.

In a statement in Canberra on Jan. 12, Australia's acting Foreign Minister J. Kerin said that 13.5 million Australian dollars of this aid will be spent on anti-malaria projects in 9 years. The rest is for projects against iodine deficiency in 3 years. Malaria and iodine deficiency are affecting millions of Vietnamese.

Achievements of National Grain Reserve Sector Reviewed

BK1401123993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 11 Jan 93

[Essay by Station Correspondent Dao Nguyen, reviewing the 1992 achievements of the National Grain Reserve Sector]

[Summary] "In 1992, the National Grain Reserve Sector produced many significant figures. It successfully bought 250,000 metric tons of good-quality rice paddy from the fifth-month spring crop at a price below the level fixed by the state, thus creating favorable conditions for the state to exercise its macro management over this strategic commodity."

Also during the year, "while exporting food grain, 15 out of 19 branch offices of the National Grain Reserve Sector promptly overcame difficulties arising from the shortage of processing equipment in ensuring the quality for 700,000 metric tons of rice."

Assisted by various localities and responsible sectors, many branch offices of the sector have been further improved organizationally, while the contingent of their storekeepers and accountants has been replenished with qualified and experienced cadres.

"In a bid to help clear long-term paddy loan debts, the sector has thus far recovered nearly 70 percent of the total paddy debts" from among the people.

Customers of the 1st and 2d Grain Reserve Sub-Departments such as the Song Hau State Farm, the Mekong Corporation, various rice mills in the south, as well as other customers in the central and northern parts of Vietnam, have placed their high confidence on these sub- departments. "Thanks to their high credibility, the two southern grain reserve sub-departments have successfully signed and executed many economic contracts with foreign countries."

Located in Can Tho, the Second Grain Reserve Sub-Department has consolidated itself organizationally and has put its actitivites on the right track. The sub-department has three general depots under its control where maintenance work was reportedly up to standards.

"Over the past few years, the contingent of grain reserve workers has striven to correct their shortcomings while surging forward to successfully regulate rice supplies for various economic sectors."

Having under their control large quantities of valuable goods owned by the state, grain reserve workers have constantly observed regulations governing the maintenance of goods.

It should be further noted that the floods in the Mekong River Delta last year posed a serious threat to various depots of the grain reserve sector, where hundreds of thousands of tones of rice paddy were kept in storage. Workers at those depots belonging to southern grain reserve sub-departments promptly built embankments and used all means available to fight floodwaters while moving all the rice reserves to safer areas.

The sector has studied ideas contributed by various sectors, echelons, localities, and public organs at those seminars held to discuss reserve-related tasks in order to find out a correct course of action suitable to our economy, which is being switched to the market system.

"All the things cited above are the central tasks to be carried out by the National Grain Reserve Sector in 1993 in order to contribute to successfully implementing the socioeconomic development tasks laid down by the state for

Thai Military Delegation Visits 14 Jan

BK1401152093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1030 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi, Jan 14 (AFP)—A Thai military delegation headed by Army chief, General Wimon Wongwanit, arrived here Thursday for a one-day official visit, a Vietnamese military source said.

The visit is at the invitation of Vietnam's Army chief of staff, General Dao Dinh Luyen, the source said.

The 18-strong delegation met Thursday with Defence Minister Doan Khue and General Dao Dinh Luyen, as well as First Deputy Premier Phan Van Khai and Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

The visit is aimed at speeding up the development of relations between the two Armies and the two countries, the source said, without elaborating. The delegation is due to leave Friday for home.

Army Paper Discusses Peaceful Evolution

BK1301104393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Jan 93

[Excerpt of article by Phan Hai Ha in 11 January QUAN DOI NHAN DAN: "Peaceful Evolution—Victory Without War"]

[Text] The article begins with a review of the collapse of socialist countries in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union which, it says, was due to various internal problems and errors in building socialism, as well as to the scheme of peaceful evolution of the imperialist and reactionary forces.

The article continues: In his memoir "1999—Victory Without War," Richard Nixon, the 37th president of the United States from 1969 to 1975, sardonically said that communism, which at the start of this century was merely a scheme in the cellar, has now dominated more than 35 percent of the world's population and the meaningful development of the 20th century is neither the end of colonialism nor the advancement of democracy, but the growth of communism.

In view of this, Nixon declared that peace and freedom could not exist in the world if the United States failed to play its international role.

The final objective of imperialism is to eliminate socialism and to destroy the ideological system of Marxism-Leninism. However, what should imperialism do to achieve that objective under the present situation?

Nixon worked out a new strategy. He said: We, the United States, must seek ways to achieve victory without war. We do not seek to win victory over any country or anybody. We only seek to enable liberal ideas and the conceptions of the bourgeoisie to triumph over dictatorial ideas and the conceptions of the working class, he said.

After scoring substantially great initial achievements without much difficulty, effort, and time in opposing and undermining the socialist countries in Eastern Europe, the imperialist and reactionary forces made a daring and decisive move by striking directly at the center and stronghold of socialism—competing with Moscow to determine who would triumph in the struggle between these two superpowers.

We must expand this peace race to the Soviet Union, said Nixon, who enforced a strategic decision: We not only have to develop our capabilities to cope with the tactical actions of the Kremlin, but we also have to execute a long-term strategy to compete with it and to compel it to accept our conditions.

After its serious setbacks in the forties, fifties, sixties, and seventies, to maintain its existence and carry out its strategic schemes upon entering the eighties, imperialism quickly took advantage of the achievements of the scientific and technological revolution, as well as the trend of detente, to adjust its strategy and change its schemes and tricks.

Nixon himself admitted that the United States had failed in its experiment with the strategy of prevention and blockade, as well as with the strategy of detente. He advised the other American leaders—who succeeded him as president—not to return to the policies that proved unsuccessful in the past, but to employ a sound strategy to develop existing advantages of the United States and to ruthlessly exploit the weaknesses of the Soviet Union and the people's mood for new changes. That was the strategy of peaceful evolution.

Nixon said this strategy, which has fulfilled its mission in the socialist countries in Eastern Europe, must now be applied urgently, sophisticatedly, skillfully, and gradually to the Soviet Union. We must apply various policies to draw the Soviet Union into participation in various races between the two systems. These races would accelerate the process of peaceful evolution of its regime.

To affirm the position, decisive significance, firmness, and efficiency of this strategy, as well as to enable his successors to set their minds at ease, Nixon said: We must develop the strategy of a peace race with Moscow right on the other side of the iron curtain not only in Eastern Europe, but also in the Soviet Union itself. Basically, we must realize that the peace race will be the important result of the U.S.-Soviet struggle and is also on par with efforts to step up our military deterrence forces.

In a speech at the College of Agriculture and Machinery in Texas on September 12, 1989 President Bush also declared: Our final objective is to welcome the Soviet Union back to the world order.

As one of the top leaders of the U.S. ruling circles, Nixon clearly, definitely, and unmistakably revealed the nature, schemes, and tricks of the U.S. ruling circles toward the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. These schemes and tricks were reflected not only through words, but also through actions which had been carried out daily and even hourly by the imperialist and reactionary forces against the socialist countries. They can also help to wake up those who were dreaming about the generosity and chivalrousness of imperialism.

Although the peaceful evolution strategy, which has been carried out in all domains, is especially designed to develop the economic and technological strengths of the United States and the West, Nixon places ideological strength on the forefront. This is easily understandable because all social revolutions are preceded by ideological propaganda.

The lesson of heavy military setbacks [learned by the United States] in its war of agression against Vietnam and against other areas during the sixties and seventies led Nixon to draw a conclusion: We are competing with the Soviet Union militarily, economically, and politically. But the key to the U.S.-Soviet rivalry is ideology. All our weapons, treaties on trade, as well as foreign aid and cultural relations will lead us nowhere if we are defeated on the ideological front. The main objectives of our ideological rivalry with the Soviet Union are to strive to propagate the Western ideas of freedom, democracy, human rights, and a pragmatic lifestyle. Politically, it is necessary to spread propaganda urging political pluralism and multi-party oppostion, regarding these as a spontaneous strike against the Communist Party.

On 12 May 1989, U.S. President Bush also said practicing long-term political pluralism and promoting respect for human rights have led to very impresssive events in Moscow. Dear Excellency Gorbachev, please do not stop where you are.

While using radio and television stations as an instrument, the greatest efforts should be made to exploit modern information technologies such as computers, satellites, and videos.

Diplomacy is regarded as a very important field of activity. Combined with diplomacy, imperialism often uses an economic slogan to lure other countries or, together with military means, to deter the latter. Diplomatically, Nixon paid great attention to negotiations. Holding negotiations is not designed to achieve a compromise or concession, but is a strategy to win and to achieve our objectives, said Nixon.

Economic strength is an advantage of the United States and the West. Providing economic assistance is a measure and also an extremely devious tool to which Nixon attached great importance in his peaceful evolution strategy. Nixon emphasized: We should exploit our economic position in this U.S.-Soviet race.

Taking advantage of the difficult life of the people in various socialist countries in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, the West used to make pledges of economic aid. And every time a pledge was made, there was a condition attached. For example, you people should accelerate your democratic process or undergo drastic economic reform in order to shift the economy to the market system and privatization.

Polish President Walesa recently denounced the West for dodging its reponsibility toward new democracies in central and Eastern Europe. They have been reluctant to help rebuild the new economies in central and Eastern Europe, thus totally different from the enthusiastic attitude they had adopted before the crumbling of Eastern Europe.

Of the many tricks to achieve peaceful evolution, Nixon is very fond of covert activities. According to Nixon, covert activities are a devious tool of U.S. foreign policy. Nixon affirmed: Renouncing clandestine operations, a tool of our foreign policy, would amount to tying our own hands in the race with the Soviet Union.

Carrying out covert activities was done under various forms such as providing budgets and weapons to opposition forces, luring, establishing contact with, and building reactionary forces from within; giving money and means of operation to trade union and press organizations in order set up reactionary organizations, parties, and forces to rival the Communist Party; and in cases where conditions permit, stage rebellions to overthrow the administration.

Combined with covert and overt operations, a no less devious trick—which has, in reality, produced substantial results—that Nixon talked about was to sow division among various ethnic groups in the Soviet Union. Using various effective methods, Nixon called for particular attention to intensifying Radio Free Europe broadcasts with programs suitable to the thinking and aspirations of the Soviet multiethnic people in order to incite feelings of racial discrimination and extreme nationalism; and to rekindling national hatred and renewing the question of national boundaries to drive a wedge among nations and peoples.

According to Nixon, in the Soviet Union there were hundreds of ethnic minority groups; our objective was to promote decentralization in the Soviet Union.

Obviously, the crisis in those socialist countries in East Europe and the Soviet Union was a quick and complex process of uprising the extremist and separatist elements and forces aimed at creating political and social instability.

Another trick to which attention was given by Nixon was seeking to profoundly understand the thirsts of the three political groups, namely Soviet leaders, and the peoples and communist leaders of East European countries. Nixon believed East European leaders were being faced with difficulties and deadlocks. This was a very good opportunity to carry out peaceful evolution. And Nixon also openly declared: In our peaceful evolution strategy, we should exploit the Glasnost campaign of Gorbachev to create anarchy among activities of society and should, in defiance of law and order, step up social instability in order to futher worsen the crisis.

While attaching importance to various economic, idealogical, and diplomatic measures and tricks and covert activities to compete with the Soviet Union without needing direct military interference, Nixon urged U.S. leaders not to forget a precondition for carrying out peaceful evolution, that is, military deterrence.

Nixon believed that successfully carrying out the aforementioned measures and tricks would lead the United States to a more favorable situation, from which it could hold negotiations with Moscow.

In his "1999—Victory Without War" memoirs, Nixon once again affirmed the nature of imperialism through its peaceful evolution strategy and those measures and tricks with which to carry out that strategy in order to eradicate socialism. Isn't this a no less important thing? We should not disregard this. Instead we should ponder and examine the reasons for the quick collapse of the socialist regimes in East European countries and in the Soviet Union.

Once defeated militarily, the more they resorted to the use of military force for war, the greater would be their defeats. Aware of this, imperialism believes that together with a military deterrence strategy, they need a new strategy with new tricks to cope with communism. Psychological warfare—ideological sabotage—strategies have therefore come to life. This is one of the important contents of the latter-day peaceful evolution strategy. Judging from this perspective, it can be said that the peaceful evolution strategy has been tried out by imperialism since the forties when World War II was just over and when the world socialist system came into being.

The peaceful evolution strategy of imperialist forces is varied, using different tricks and measures, depending on where and when it is carried out. But one of its striking features is to resort to every way possible to combine all measures and forces to create a force from within—namely, to create instability from within, particularly from within the Communist Party and within the party leadership—to attack the party rule, discredit the party role, and advance toward creating division and instability within the party so it will become paralized and fall part.

Once the party is divided, the people will lose their direction. Once the party is weakened, the people will lose their confidence in it. This is the opportunity for hostile forces to further worsen the situation by carrying out peaceful evolution to create rebellion and subversion from within. But reality also attests to the fact that the results of peaceful evolution do not rely on reactionary imperialist forces, but rather depend decisively on political acumen and on the experienced leadership of each Communist Party and on the characteristics and tradition of the people in each country.

What has happened in various socialist countries in East Europe and the Soviet Union serves as a practical and useful lesson for us. But what is decisive remains our party, our people, and the flesh-and-blood relations between the party and the people. We should not be subjective by resting on past laurels, nor should we panic over the intensity of the hostile forces' schemes and tricks.

We should realize the current world situation in order to develop a correct, suitable, and flexible foreign policy if we are to create a favorable international environment for the cause of national construction and defense.

We should be alert and sensitive and should not be negligent or lose our vigilance, nor should we ever be illusionary in the face of the many tricks of hostile forces.

Fighting the peaceful evolution strategy should be linked with the renovation of the country in conjunction with efforts to combine the tasks of national construction with that of national defense, and to link the struggle to protect Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh thought with the move to build a clean and steadfast party truly capable of serving as a force that rules society and the state and that builds the solidarity and unity bloc among the people. All these are effective approaches with which we can firmly protect our revolutionary gains and this regime if we want to continue to stand firmly on our own two feet and move forward along the path chosen by our party, our Uncle Ho, and our people.

VNA Carries Press Review for 15 Jan

BK1501070793 Hanoi VNA in English 0610 GMT 15 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 15—Newspapers here today report that a delegation of the commission for defence and armament of the National Assembly of France headed by Senator Jean Brocird ended its visit to Vietnam to inquire into the renovation of Vietnam and exchange views of common concern with the Vietnamese National Assembly.

The papers also carry the the comment by a spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on the allied air attack on Iraq's anti-air-craft missiles along the 32nd parallel in the so-called no-fly-zone. The spokesman said Vietnam is greatly concerned about this event and holds that all acts of military confrontation at this time will only make the situation tenser and cause more sufferings to the Iraqi people.

The English-language daily VIETNAM NEWS reports that Vatico, the first American company officially licensed by the United States to conduct business in Vietnam, has made a committment with the Vietnam Committee for Protection and Care for Children

(VNCPCC) to [words indistinct] to the Vietnam Children's Fund (CF) and that Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai on Thursday received Mr. Roger Hernandez, special envoy of the President of Credit Lyonnais Paris, currently on a visit to Vietnam to attend the inauguration on the same day of a branch of the bank in Hanoi.

Oxfam, a non-governmental organization in Belgium is to set up a representation office in Hanoi, according to a memorandum of understanding signed in Hanoi on Thursday between representatives of the Vietnamese Government and Oxfam.

[Words indistinct] QUAN DOI NHAN DAM carry reports on worldwide public opinion condemning the Democratic Kampuchea factions massacre of Vietnamese resident in Cambodia.

Quan DOI NHAN DAN run a commentary on the danger of renewed civil war in Angola.

Australia

Government Supports Air Strike on Iraq

BK1401025893 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0203 GMT 14 Jan 93

[From the "International Report" program]

[Excerpt] Australia says it fully supports the air strike by American, British, and French planes against Iraq. Acting Foreign Minister John Kerin said Australian defense officials were given details last night about the Allied operation.

At present, an Australian Navy ship, HMAS Canberra, is in the Red Sea as part of the multinational fleet maintaining sanctions against Iraq. Mr. Kerin told journalists in Canberra there are no plans to move the vessel into the Persian Gulf, and said there have been no requests for any further military involvement by Australia.

[Begin recording] [Kerin] The Australian Government supports the actions taken by the United States, the United Kingdom, and France in their attack on military targets in Iraq. The Iraqi leadership should be under no doubt about the resolve of the international community with respect to Iraq's compliance with UN resolutions. There have been something like 26 Security Council resolutions now about Iraq, and the Security Council met on 11 January and under the terms of Security Council Resolution 687, which related to the ceasefire in 1991, it said that Iraq again was in clear breach of those resolutions. Saddam Husayn's actions over past weeks—the positioning of anti-aircraft missiles in the no-fly zone and the denial of the use of UN aircraft by UN people in Iraq and the other provocations across the border into Kuwait, including the snatching of missiles—have all been delberate provocations. Australia calls on Iraq to fully comply with the UN resolutions. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Jobless Rate Shows Slight Improvement

BK1401014893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0052 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Sydney, Jan 14 (AFP)—Australia's unemployment rate showed a slight improvement in December to 11.3 percent against a post-1945 record of 11.4 percent in November, the Bureau of Statistics reported Thursday. It said the number of those employed increased in December by 24,500 to 7.66 million, while the number unemployed was virtually unchanged at 978,700. Full-time employment rose while part-time employment fell. The bureau's trend estimate for employment fell for the fourth successive while trend estimates for unemployed persons continued to increase.

The worst-affected Australian state was Tasmania, with 12.6 percent unemployment, up from 11.4 percent in November, followed by South Australia with 12 percent, Victoria with 11.5 percent and New South Wales with 11.4 percent.

On release of the data the Australian dollar dipped to 66.80 U.S. cents after opening easier on offshore weakness before firming to 66.90 U.S. cents from a local close Wednesday of 67.38 U.S. cents. There was considerable market speculation that the Central Reserve Bank was supporting the currency.

Economists had forecast the unemployment rate to come in at between 11.1 percent and 11.5 percent, with some concern that an influx of school leavers could have inflated the number of job seekers.

Immediate government policy adjustments were considered unlikely, with Prime Minister Paul Keating and Treasurer John Dawkins on annual leave and the Reserve Bank board not due to meet until February 2.

New Zealand

Annual Inflation Rate for 1992 at 1.3 Percent

BK1401001493 Hong Kong AFP in English 2347 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Wellington, Jan 14 (AFP)—New Zealand's inflation rate in 1992 as measured by the consumer price index was 1.3 percent, the Statistics Department announced here Thursday.

The index in the December quarter was 0.3 percent higher than in the previous quarter, the first time since September 1991 that inflation had risen by more than an annual rate of one percent.

But Westpac economist Bevan Graham said that despite the increase the latest result showed inflationary pressure here remained weak. It compared with one percent inflation in the year ending in September.

"What's really pleasing is the fact that the underlying (price) categories, like clothing and household furnishings, are remaining very subdued," he said.

Deputy government statistician Dennis Trewin said the latest figure meant New Zealand's inflation was now tied for the third lowest among Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development countries.